FLYING
SAUCER
REVIEW

Volume 29, No. 5, 1984 £1.50

U.S. AIR FORCE BASE'S RADAR KNOCKED OUT BY A UFO

See page 2

FLYING SAUCER REVIEW

ESTABLISHED SPRING 1955

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An international journal devoted to the study of reports of Unidentified Flying Objects

Volume 29, No. 5
(published June 1984)

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"BOILED OR FRIED?"

If we overlook his naive enthusiasms for Bolshevik mass-murderers, it has to be admitted that our writer H. G. Wells (like his contemporary Charles Fort) was a remarkably intuitive fellow — prescient enough to perceive that *Homo Sap* might *not* be unique in the Universe. (His famous novel, *"The War of the Worlds"*, appeared in 1898 — just after the wave of "mystery airships" over the U.S.A.)

In 1920 Wells went to Russia to see Lenin, and after his idol had aired his plans for modernizing Russia by electrification while simultaneously eradicating the curse of culture, Wells chuntered on about his own pet hobbyhorse, which was something funny that he called *"Evolutionary Collectivism."*

But certain of Wells' other thoughts must have got ventilated too, for, in a letter to Wells after his return to Britain, Lenin wrote in terms substantially as follows:-

"What you tell me about possible alien life in the Cosmos may well be right. In which case of course all our assumptions (i.e. dialectical materialism, etc.) fall to the ground."

Wells himself naturally had no foolish illusions that all possible visitors might "have to be nice." Asked one day by a lady how he thought our first cosmic travellers might be expected to deal with us, he replied: *"Well, that depends on how they'll treat us: boiled or fried!"*

Today, the huge number of cattle mutilation reports ought to beget serious reflection (particularly in the light of the assertions made by Dr. Paul Bennewitz and quoted on page 5 of this issue.) It behooves us therefore to bear in mind that nothing in our current record marks us out as entitled to any sort of special treatment or consideration. *In view of the way in which we treat each other and, especially, in view of the shamelessly cruel fashion in which we experiment and inflict suffering upon the animals — our own brethren in this planet's life-system — surely whatever treatment we may collect will have been richly deserved.*

One more point to consider: A lot of folk are alarmed over new developments in genetic engineering, test-tube babies, "womb-renting", and so on. What about the day when it dawns upon our sleeping species that all these techniques are already being employed on us — and by someone else?

U.S. AIR FORCE BASE'S RADAR KNOCKED OUT BY A UFO

Steve Webbe

Special report for *Flying Saucer Review.* Mr. Steve Webbe is a former Pentagon correspondent for the *Christian Science Monitor.* — EDITOR

WASHINGTON, D.C. — While publicly claiming to have long ago washed its hands of unidentified flying objects (UFOs), the United States Air Force privately exhibits considerable interest in them — and, reportedly, not a little concern about their intentions.

When three Air Force security policemen watched a brightly-lit object land in a restricted test range at Kirtland Air Force Base, New Mexico, in August 1980, investigatory personnel there reported the sighting to the Air Force's Office of Special Investigations (AFOSI) at its Bolling Air Force Base headquarters in the District of Columbia.

This evidence of continuing Air Force interest in the mysterious UFO phenomena, along with an account of the sighting itself, is revealed in documents[1] recently released by AFOSI under the *Freedom of Information Act* to UFO researcher Barry J. Greenwood of Stoneham, Massachusetts. Surprisingly, they are uncensored.

Kirtland AFB, two miles south-east of Albuquerque, houses some highly secret installations, including Sandia National Laboratories (SNL) and the Air Force Weapons Laboratory (AFWL).

Some Important Installations

For the past several years AFWL scientists have been examining the feasibility of using airborne lasers to shoot down surface-to-air and air-to-air missiles. SNL, operated by the Western Electric Co. Inc. for the Department of Energy, develops electronics for nuclear weapons and cryptological devices for the National Security Agency. Both SNL and the AFWL make use of Kirtland's restricted test range. Kirtland's Manzano Weapons Storage Area, moreover, is one of the largest nuclear weapons depositories in the country.

According to the report obtained by Greenwood, the three Kirtland security policemen were guarding this weapons storage area at 11.50 p.m. on August 8, 1980, when they spotted "a very bright light in the sky" some three miles away. Staff Sergeant Stephen Ferenz, Airman First Class Martin W. Rist, and Airman Anthony D. Frazier watched as the light "travelled with great speed" and "stopped suddenly" in the sky over the test range.

"The light landed in the Coyote Canyon area," writes AFOSI Special Agent Richard C. Doty in the report. "Sometime later, [the] three witnessed the light take off and leave, proceeding straight up at a high speed and disappear," he continues.

The trio at first thought they had seen a helicopter, Doty relates, but quickly concluded that the object's strange aerial manoeuvres effectively excluded that possibility.

Three days later the Special Agent learned from Sandia Security staffer Russ Curtis that there had been another witness to the strange light. Apparently a Sandia guard had seen it at approximately 12.30 a.m. on August 9 while driving on the Coyote Canyon access road en route to check one of the specially alarmed buildings in the vicinity that contain nuclear materials.

Approaching the structure, he, too, saw what he took to be a helicopter, "But after driving closer, he observed a round disk-shaped object," Doty reports. "He attempted to radio for a back-up patrol but his radio would not work. As he approached the object on foot armed with a shotgun, the object took off in a vertical direction at a high rate of speed."

The Special Agent notes that the guard, a former U.S. Army helicopter mechanic "who wishes his name not to be divulged for fear of harassment," was certain he had not seen a helicopter.

Two weeks after the three security policemen made their sighting, three others also saw a brightly-lit object land in Coyote Canyon, Doty's report reveals. They did not see the object take off.

Then, on September 8, 1980, Sandia Security informed Special Agent Doty that another of its guards had seen an object land near one of the buildings containing nuclear components in Coyote Canyon during the first week of August. Fearing harassment, the guard had delayed reporting the sighting.

Perhaps suspecting that clandestine trials of some new U.S. aircraft accounted for the strange lights, Doty checked to see if the range was ever used for aerial testing. He was assured that only ground testing took place there.

Dr. Paul Bennewitz

Unknown to the Special Agent, an Albuquerque physicist was also watching the skies above Kirtland from his home nearby. Dr. Paul Bennewitz[2] was so concerned by what he saw that he contacted Doty and

on October 26, 1980, the Special Agent together with Jerry Miller, chief scientific advisor to the Air Force Test and Evaluation Center (AFTEC), which is headquartered at Kirtland, paid him a visit.

Bennewitz, who is also president of an Albuquerque scientific research firm[3], confronted the two men with "photographs and over 2,600 feet of 8mm. motion picture film depicting unidentified aerial objects flying over and around Manzano Weapons Storage Area and Coyote Canyon test area," according to Major Thomas A. Cseh, commander of the Base Investigative Detachment at Kirtland.

According to Major Cseh's report, Miller, a former investigator for Project Blue Book, the Air Force's defunct UFO probe, concluded that Bennewitz's material "clearly shows that some type of unidentified aerial objects were caught on film".

As a Blue Book investigator, Miller had been assigned to the Air Force's Foreign Technology Division (FTD) at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base near Dayton, Ohio. Despite the official termination of Project Blue Book in 1969, Major Cseh states that Miller, "one of the most knowledgeable and impartial investigators of aerial objects in the South-West", informed FTD personnel of Bennewitz's film and photographs, and that they expressed an interest in seeing them.

The Albuquerque scientist again displayed his evidence on November 10, 1980, at a Kirtland AFB meeting chaired by Brigadier General William R. Brooksher, Commander of Air Force Security Police.

Accompanying General Brooksher were four colonels, AFWL Director Dr. William Lehman and Ed Breen, an AFWL instrumentations specialist. "I had a feeling they knew what I was talking about," says Bennewitz in a telephone interview. The assembled officers and scientists seemed "deeply concerned" by all they examined, Bennewitz recalls. The film and photographs actually left some of them "aghast", he insists.

Bennewitz informed then Senator Harrison Schmitt (R-N.M.) of his sightings in 1980. The senator was sufficiently concerned to call Special Agent Doty and tell him that he would ask the Air Force to "look into the matter", according to Major Cseh's report.

Senator Schmitt, a former Apollo astronaut who was defeated in the Congressional elections of 1982, also called General Brooksher, since security police are responsible for the safety of the Manzano Weapons Storage Area. Reached in Albuquerque, Schmitt says he is uncertain what effect his calls had on the Air Force. Bennewitz seems to believe he might have pursued the matter more vigorously.

Radar knocked out

August 1980 was a trying time for Kirtland officials. On the 13th of the month, in the midst of the UFO sightings, they were faced with a further strange development when a mysterious high frequency jamming knocked out the base's radar approach control equipment and its scanner radar.

According to documents provided by an Air Force source who has asked not to be identified, the jamming was so effective that between 4.30 p.m. and 10.15 p.m. the base suffered a total blackout of its entire radar approach system. Radar approach control back-up systems also went down.

Radio frequency monitors with the Defense Nuclear Agency (DNA), which conducts electromagnetic research at Kirtland, traced the interference to an area north-west of Coyote Canyon. A search of the area by security police revealed nothing that could have caused the interference. No tests were being conducted in the area. At 10.16 p.m. on August 13 all radar equipment resumed normal functioning.

The incident left Kirtland specialists baffled. *DNA frequency monitors reported that the interference beam was widespread and of a type unknown to their electronic equipment.* An AFOSI investigation at Kirtland came to the conclusion that hostile jamming could not be ruled out and senior commanders requested briefings on the affair.

Raymond E. Fowler, a noted authority on UFO phenomena and national director of investigations for the Mutual UFO Network (MUFON), believes the Kirtland jamming was UFO-related. "Who else could do something like that?" he asks, suggesting that the jamming may have been designed to mask "some other operation".

Fowler, an author of several books on UFOs and a GTE Sylvania missile program supervisor from Wenham, Massachusetts, claims that UFOs frequently overfly U.S. Air Force bases.

In his 1981 book *"Casebook of a UFO Investigator"* he quotes instances drawn from logs of the North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD), copies of which were obtained under the *Freedom of Information Act* by Ground Saucer Watch (GSW) of Phoenix, Arizona. According to one entry, at 2.55 a.m. on November 8, 1975, radar at Malmstrom Air Force Base, Montana, home of the 341st Strategic Missile Wing, picked up one to seven UFOs heading south-south-west at 12,000 feet.

Five Sabotage Alert Teams — armed patrols in jeeps — assigned to the base's *Minuteman* missile launch facilities, spotted the UFOs. Two of the teams reported sighting one at a mere 300 feet.

An entry in the senior director's log for the 24th NORAD Region (which is based on Malmstrom) notes that on November 7 the launch control facility at Harlowtown, Montana, "observed an object which emitted a light that illuminated the site driveway".

The documents obtained by Ground Saucer Watch, which included material from the Central Intelligence Agency as well as the Air Force, disclosed that during

October, November, and December 1975, UFOs were repeatedly sighted over Strategic Air Command bases where intercontinental ballistic missiles and B-52 bombers are deployed.

Besides Malmstrom, the objects appeared over Minot Air Force Base, North Dakota; Loring Air Force Base, Maine; and Wurtsmith Air Force Base, Michigan. They appeared to take a particular interest in nuclear weapons storage dumps, aircraft alert areas, and missile emplacements, the documents stated.

In 1981 former Air Force sergeant Stephen Eichner told a Washington, D.C. press conference that he watched as a reddish-orange disk-shaped UFO hovered over the nuclear weapons storage area at Loring AFB in 1975. He rejected the Air Force contention that the intruder, which he estimated to be three or four car-lengths long, was any sort of helicopter.

Such an incident would be reported to AFOSI headquarters at Bolling AFB, concedes Pentagon UFO spokesman Lieut. George Jamison. "But to my knowledge no further action would be taken. We're just not in the business of investigating UFOs."

The 1975 rash of sightings over U.S. Air Force bases is one of the central themes of a book entitled "Clear Intent" to be published in June 1984 by Prentice-Hall. The work of Barry Greenwood and fellow UFO researcher Lawrence Fawcett, it is subtitled "Military Coverup of the UFO Experience."

COMMENTS BY EDITOR, FSR

1. I am much indebted to Mr. Lawrence J. Fenwick of CUFORN *(Canadian UFO Research Network)* and to Mr. Tom Adams of Paris, Texas, the USA's leading investigator of animal mutilations, for furnishing me with complete photostatic copies of six of these documents which Mr. Barry J. Greenwood and/or others have winkled out of the U.S. Air Force's Office of Special Investigations (AFOSI) at Bolling Air Force Base, District of Columbia, under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act.
I reproduce these six documents below. As will be seen, the report by the three Kirtland AFB security policemen who observed the UFO over the test range and saw it land in the Coyote Canyon area is the second of the six documents.
2. On Dr. Paul Bennewitz and the "interesting" attitude of the U.S. Air Force and of AFOSI to his observations and his discoveries, see documents Nos. 4, 5 and 6 reproduced below.
3. Name of firm deleted at suggestion of the author.

PRESS CONFIRMATIONS OF THE KIRTLAND BASE AFFAIR

Before seeing Mr Steve Webbe's account, we had already received several clippings from local New Mexico newspapers and from other sources, and had made a digest of these. And we had also received (thanks to Mr Bill Allan of Canada and Mr Tom Adams of Paris, Texas, the leading expert on cattle mutilations) photostatic copies of several of the actual documents about Kirtland that had been released to the Texas investigators by the U.S. Air Force under the terms of the *Freedom of Information Act.* (In view of their very great interest we reproduce them in full below.)

The release of these documents underlines in most remarkable fashion the work that is being done today by MUFON and its allies.

What follows immediately below is a summary of the press stories, as given in the *Albuquerque Tribune* (April 8, 1983) and elsewhere. For the original clippings we are variously indebted to FSR readers, and most especially to Mrs Giovanna Klopp of Ventura, California. — EDITOR

JUST-released Government reports document five sightings of unidentified flying objects during August 1980 over Kirtland Air Force Base.

The mysterious encounters, as described in Air Force reports and revealed through the Freedom of Information Act, were:

1. On August 8, "three security policemen . . . on duty in the Manzano Weapons Storage Area, sighted an unidentified light in the air that travelled north to halt over the Coyote Canyon area of the Department of Defence's Restricted Test Range on Kirtland Air Force Base", the Governement reported.

The light travelled at high speed and stopped suddenly in the sky over Coyote Canyon and eventually landed in the canyon, according to the security policemen, who then witnessed it "take off and leave, proceeding straight up at a high speed, and disappear".

2. The next day, August 9, a security guard at Sandia Laboratories on the base observed a bright light near the ground behind a building in Coyote Canyon. As he drove nearer, he saw a round, disc-shaped object and tried to radio for help. But his radio would not work.

The guard, who did not want his name divulged, for fear of harassment, then walked up to the object armed with a shot-gun. Suddenly, it took off, going straight up at high speed.

The guard, a former Army helicopter mechanic, stated the UFO was not a helicopter.

3. The following day, August 10, a New Mexico State policeman saw a flying object land in the Manzano Mountains between Belen and Albuquerque.

When he reported the sighting to the Kirtland command post, he was told by the public relations office that the Air Force did not investigate sightings unless they occurred on an air base.

Three days later, on August 13, radar equipment at Kirtland and at the Albuquerque Airport experienced a total five-hour blackout from an "unknown cause".

An Air Force report concluded that "the presence of hostile intelligence jamming cannot be ruled out", but went on to say "no evidence would suggest this".

4. Nine days later, on August 22, three other security guards observed the same aerial phenomenon described by the first three guards two weeks earlier.

"Again the object landed in Coyote Canyon. They did not see the object take off," the report said.

5. *The final Kirtland document is dated October 28, 1980. In it, Air Force scientific adviser Jerry Miller concluded that a film taken by Four Hills resident Paul Bennewitz "clearly shows . . . some type of unidentified aerial objects" at Kirtland.*

Miller is a former investigator for Project Bluebook, the Air Force's massive investigations of UFOs that ended in 1969.

Dr. Paul Bennewitz

Bennewitz, president of a local electronics firm, lives adjacent to the northern boundary of Manzano Base.

He said it was on February 2, 1980, that he saw four "saucer- or hat-shaped objects lined up behind the outside fence" of the Manzano area.

"A black spot and a big blue halo appeared, establishing their force field. There was a flash under each one as they jumped off the ground in (one word corrupt) 300-400 ft., turned right and were gone to the south," he recalled.

He filmed the spectacle from about 2,500 yards away.

Bennewitz, according to the official Air Force report written months later, produced still photographs and 2,600 feet of 8mm. motion picture film "depicting unidentified aerial objects flying over and around Manzano Weapons Storage Area and Coyote Canyon Test Area".

But investigator Miller reported only that "no conclusions could be made whether these objects pose a threat to Manzano-Coyote Canyon areas".

On November 19, Bennewitz was told that the Air Force would not investigate the objects and "was not in a position to evaluate the information and photographs he has collected".

However, the sightings reportedly caught the interest of former New Mexico Senator Harrison Schmitt, who enquired why the Air Force refused to investigate, the report said.

Within the past year or so, Bennewitz, who is convinced the UFOs are alien ships, has called Kirtland to again request an investigation, said George Pearce, Kirtland PRO. Said Pearce: "Bennewitz said he was in contact with alien beings through his computer, and wanted us to investigate."

"I told him we don't investigate those things since Project Bluebook ended in 1969 after 22 years of investigation. Of course, he wasn't pleased with the answer."

Col. John Aday, chief of public affairs at Kirtland, said Project Bluebook concluded that UFOs are no threat to national defence.

He said he has "no idea" what the 1980 sightings could have been. "I could conjecture all day about what might have been going on out there, but won't."

He said that when the Air Force was investigating UFOs, it was often determined that they were weather balloons or the like.

"I'm not saying that what Bennewitz saw or what the security police saw was anything like that, but because of the record of our investigations, it seems likely that they were nothing dangerous to our national defence."

Bennewitz earlier this week in Albuquerque briefed a group of UFO enthusiasts on his personal three-year investigation into alien activities in New Mexico. He said he plans to put his observations into a book.

Alleged Alien Base

Among his conclusions are that there is an alien base inside an isolated mesa near Dulce, and that the aliens intend to enslave the earth.

He said his study includes a statement from a New Mexico woman who was taken hostage by the aliens near Cimmarron after she had seen them mutilating a calf.

Bennewitz said that he had seen the aliens on a video screen, and he described them as green and about 4 ft. tall, and "strong little bastards".

He told his audience at the UFO briefing session that the cattle mutilations are the aliens' source of supplies needed for the building of humanoids by gene-splicing. They take the organs and blood from the animals while they are still alive, in order to maintain a tremendous supply of DNA — the carrier of the genetic code — he said.

The Kirtland sightings in 1980 were mentioned in documents released by the Department of the Air Force in December 1982 to the Mutual UFO Network (MUFON), an international UFO study group who have their headquarters in Texas.

Said Walter Andrus, International Director of MUFON: "This is an unusually large number of sightings — right there on the Base."

MUFON were obliged to file numerous applications under the *Freedom of Information Act* before they were able to secure release of these reports, said Andrus.

Andrus said that MUFON has more than 1,000 members, most of them scientists or people working in related fields. About a dozen of their members reside in New Mexico — six of them in Albuquerque itself. Several of them are employed in the Sandia Laboratories at Albuquerque.

Andrus said that MUFON had been well informed on the Kirtland affair at the time, but had kept the matter confidential until the release of the secret documents by the Air Force. He said MUFON's effort to gather documentary evidence has been *"a tough, up-hill battle all the way with various branches of Government and with the military agencies. We call it our cosmic Watergate!"*

DOCUMENT No 1.

COMPLAINT FORM — Page (1)

ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

KIRTLAND AFB, NM, 13 Aug 80, Possible Hostile Intelligence Intercept Incident, Frequency Jamming.

DATE: 14 Aug 80 — TIME: 0730

PLACE: AFOSI District 17, BID, Kirtland AFB, NM

HOW RECEIVED: X IN PERSON — TELEPHONICALLY — IN WRITING

SOURCE AND EVALUATION: [redacted]

RESIDENCE OR BUSINESS ADDRESS: [redacted] — PHONE: [redacted]

CR ____ APPLIES

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION

REMARKS

On 13 Aug 80, 1960 COMSq Maintenance Officer reported Radar Approach Control equipment and scanner radar inoperative due to high frequency jamming from an unknown source. Total blackout of entire radar approach system to include Albuquerque Airport was in effect between 1630-2215hrs. Radar Approach Control back-up systems also were inoperative.

On 13 Aug 80, Defense Nuclear Agency Radio Frequency Monitors determined, by vector analysis, the interference was being sent from an area (V-90 degrees or due) on DAF Map coordinates E-28.6. The area was located NW of Coyote Canyon Test Area. It was first thought that Sandia Laboratory, which utilizes the test range was responsible. However, after a careful check, it was later determined that no tests were being conducted in the canyon area. Department of Energy, Air Force Weapons Laboratory and DNA were contacted but assured that their agencies were not responsible.

On 13 Aug 80, Base Security Police conducted a physical check of the area but the use of the mountainous terrain, a thorough check could not be completed at that time. A later foot search failed to disclose anything that could have caused the interference.

On 13 Aug 80, at 2210hrs., all radar equipment returned to normal operation without another incident.

CONCLUSION: The presence of hostile intelligence jamming cannot be ruled out. although no evidence would suggest this, the method has been used in the past. Communication maintenance specialists cannot explain how such interference could cause the radar equipment to become totally inoperative. Neither could they suggest the type or range of the interference signal. DNA frequency monitors reported the interference beam was wide spread and a type unknown to their electronical equipment. Another check of the area was being conducted by Technical Services, AFOSI.

High command interest item. Briefings requested IAW AFOSIR 124-4 be completed) AFOSI/IVOE.[redacted]

FORWARDED HQ AFOSI — AFOSI FORM 98 ATTACHED ☐ YES ☐ NO

DOCUMENT No 2.

COMPLAINT FORM — HQ IVOS Page (2)

ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

TITLE: KIRTLAND AFB, NM, 8 Aug - 3 Sep 80, Alleged Sightings of Unidentified Aerial Lights in Restricted Test Range.

DATE: 2 - 9 Sept 80 — TIME: 1200

PLACE: AFOSI Det 1700, Kirtland AFB, NM

HOW RECEIVED: X IN PERSON — TELEPHONICALLY — IN WRITING

SOURCE AND EVALUATION: MAJOR ERNEST E. EDWARDS

RESIDENCE OR BUSINESS ADDRESS: Commander, 1608 SPS, Manzano Kirtland AFB, NM — PHONE: 4-7516

CR 44 APPLIES

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION

REMARKS

1. On 2 Sept 80, SOURCE related on 8 Aug 80, three Security Policemen assigned to 1608 SPS, KAFB, NM, on duty inside the Manzano Weapons Storage Area sighted an unidentified light in the air that traveled from North to South over the Coyote Canyon area of the Department of Defense Restricted Test Range on KAFB, NM. The Security Policemen identified as: SSGT STEPHEN FERENZ, Area Supervisor, AIC MARTIN W. RIST and AMN ANTHONY D. FRAZIER, were later interviewed separately by SOURCE and all three related the same statement; At approximately 2350hrs., while on duty in Charlie Sector, East Side of Manzano, the three observed a very bright light in the sky approximately 3 miles North-North East of their position. The light traveled with great speed and stopped suddenly in the sky over Coyote Canyon. The three first thought the object was a helicopter, however, after observing the strange aerial maneuvers (stop and go), they felt a helicopter couldn't have performed such skills. The light landed in the Coyote Canyon area. Sometime later, three witnessed the light take off and leave proceeding straight up at a high speed and disappear.

2. Central Security Control (CSC) inside Manzano, contacted Sandia Security, who conduct frequent building checks on two alarmed structures in the area. They advised that a patrol was already in the area and would investigate.

3. On 11 Aug 80, RUSS CURTIS, Sandia Security, advised that on 9 Aug 80, a Sandia Security Guard, (who wishes his name not be divulged for fear of harassment), related the following: At approximately 0020hrs., he was driving East on the Coyote Canyon access road on a routine building check of an alarmed structure . As he approached the structure he observed a bright light near the ground behind the structure. He also observed an object he first thought was a helicopter. But after driving closer, he observed a round disk shaped object. He attempted to radio for a back up patrol but his radio would not work. As he approached the object on foot armed with a shotgun, the object took off in a vertical direction at a high rate of speed The guard was a former helicopter mechanic in the U.S. Army and stated the object he observed was not a helicopter.

4. SOURCE advised on 22 Aug 80, three other security policemen observed the same

DATE FORWARDED HQ AFOSI: HQ IVOS 10 Aug 80 — AFOSI FORM 96 ATTACHED ☐ YES ☐ NO

DATE: 9 Sept 80 — TYPED OR PRINTED NAME OF SPECIAL AGENT: RICHARD C. DOTY, SA — SIGNATURE: Richard C. Doty

DISTRICT FILE NO: 8017D93-0/22 — DCII RESULTS: NEGATIVE ✓ — POSITIVE (See attached)

AFOSI FORM 1 JUN 76 PREVIOUS EDITION WILL BE USED

Atch 1

CONTINUED FROM COMPLAI FORM 1, DTD 9 Sept 80

aerial phenomena described by the first three. Again the object landed in Coyote Canyon. They did not see the object take off.

5. Coyote Canyon is part of a large restricted test range used by the Air Force Weapons Laboratory, Sandia Laboratories, Defense Nuclear Agency and the Department of Energy. The range was formerly patrolled by Sandia Security, However, they only conduct building checks there now.

6. On 10 Aug 80, a New Mexico State Patrolman sighted awaerial object land in the Manzano's between Belen and Albuquerque, NM. The Patrolman reported the sighting to the Kirtland AFB Command Post, who later referred the patrolman to the AFOSI Dist 17. AFOSI Dist 17 advised the patrolman to make a report through his own agency. On 11 Aug 80, the Kirtland Public Information office advised the patrolman the USAF no longer investigates such sightings unless they occur on a USAF base.

7. WRITER contacted all the agencies who utilized the test range and it was learned no aerial tests are conducted in the Coyote Canyon area. Only ground tests are conducted.

8. On 8 Sept 80, WRITER learned from Sandia Security that another Security Guard observed a object land near an alarmed structure sometime during the first week of August, but did not report it until just recently for fear of harassment.

9. The two alarmed structures located within the area contains HQ CR 44 material.

DR JACQUES VALLÉE JOINS FSR

We are proud to announce that Dr Jacques Vallée, Ph.D., has also joined our ranks as a Consultant to FSR. All his books, *Anatomy of a Phenomenon; Challenge to Science; Passport to Magonia; The Edge of Reality* (with Dr Hynek); *The Invisible College;* and *Messengers of Deception,* are world-famous, and are consulted wherever "our subject" is studied.

DOCUMENT No 3

MULTIPURPOSE INTERNAL OSI FORM

(Complete only applicable items)

7 Pgs (4)

DO NO(S) 17/IVO	SUBJECT	FILE NO
DET NO (S)	KIRTLAND AFB, NM, 8 Aug - 3 Sep 80	8017D53-0/29
HEADQUARTERS	Alleged Sightings of Unidentified Aerial	TRANSMITTAL DATE
DC NO 17/BID	Lights in Restricted Test Range	28 Oct 80
DET NO		SUSPENSE DATE
HEADQUARTERS		

REFERENCE

AFOSI Fm 1, 8 Sep 80, Same Title

MINOR DISCREPANCIES NOTED ARE LISTED BELOW.

YOUR DISTRICT IS DESIGNATED OFFICE OF ORIGIN

ATTACHED REQUIRES INVESTIGATION IN YOUR AREA

DETERMINE SUBJECT'S ACCESS TO CLASSIFIED INFORMATION AS REQUIRED BY OSIM 124-1, PARA 2-4-3

FORWARD RESULTS DIRECTLY TO OFFICE OF ORIGIN, OR TO:

NO FURTHER INVESTIGATION CONTEMPLATED

YOUR FILES REFLECT PRIOR INVESTIGATION BY ______ , DTD ______ FILE ______ (By copy of this form ______ is requested to furnish ______ copies of prior investigation/letter summary, if applicable, to ______)

REPORT OF PRIOR INVESTIGATION, SUMMARY ATTACHED

INVESTIGATION CONTINUING AND YOU WILL BE FURNISHED FURTHER REPORTS

DISCONTINUE INVESTIGATION. FORWARD RESULTS OF ANY INVESTIGATION ACCOMPLISHED.

DISCREPANCIES BETWEEN LEAD REQUEST AND DEVELOPED INFORMATION ARE SET FORTH.

REPORT OF COMMAND ACTION HAS NOT BEEN RECEIVED

REQUEST STATUS OF THIS MATTER AND/OR DATE REPORT MAY BE EXPECTED. (Requester, forward 2 copies of this form; Recipient, use one received copy for answer with proper signature in remarks section unless OSI directives state reply not required.)

REFER ATTACHED TO INTERESTED COMMANDER FOR INFORMATION OR ACTION IF NOT PREVIOUSLY REPORTED

CHECK WORLD-WIDE LOCATOR FOR BELOW LISTED PERSON OR SUBJECT

ATTACHED IS FORWARDED FOR INFORMATION AND/OR ACTION.

UPON REMOVAL OF ATTACHMENT(S) ______ THE CLASSIFICATION ON THIS CORRESPONDENCE WILL BE

☐ RETAINED. ☐ DOWNGRADED TO ______ ☐ CANCELED. ☐ MARKED "FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY."

(If classification is retained, with or without attachments, indicate reason for security classification and grouping per AFR 205-1.)

REMARKS

On 24 Oct 80, Dr PAUL FREDRICK BENNEWITZ, Male Born 30 Sep 27, KS, Civ, SSAN: [b7C] [b7C] Albuquerque, NM, contacted SA RICHARD C. DOTY through Major ERNEST E. EDWARDS, Commander, 1608 SPS, Kirtland AFB, NM and related he had knowledge and evidence of threats against Manzano Weapons Storage area. The threat was from Aerial Phenomena over Manzano.

On 26 Oct 80, SA DOTY, with the assistance of JERRY MILLER, GS-15, Chief, Scientific Advisor for Air Force Test and Evaluation Center, KAFB, interviewed Dr. BENNEWITZ at his home in the Four Hills Section of Albuquerque, which is adjacent to the northern boundary of Manzano Base. (NOTE: MILLER is a former Project Blue Book USAF Investigator who was assigned to Wright-Patterson AFB (W-PAFB), OH, with FTD. Mr. MILLER is one of the most knowledgeable and impartial investigators of Aerial Objects in the southwest). Dr. BENNEWITZ produced photographs and over 2600 feet of 8mm motion picture film depicting unidentified aerial objects flying over and around Manzano Weapons Storage Area and Coyote Canyon Test Area. Dr. BENNEWITZ has been conducting independent research into Aerial Phenomena for the last 15 months. Dr. BENNEWITZ also produced several electronic recording tapes,

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allegedly showing high periods of electrical magnetism being emitted from Manzano/Coyote Canyon area. Dr. BENNEWITZ also produced several photographs of flying objects taken over the general Albuquerque area. He has several pieces of electronic surveillance equipment pointed at Manzano and is attempting to record high frequency electrical beam pulses. Dr. BENNEWITZ claims these Aerial Objects produce these pulses.

3. After analyzing the data collected by Dr. BENNEWITZ, Mr MILLER related the evidence clearly shows that some type of unidentified aerial objects were caught on film; however, no conclusions could be made whether these objects pose a threat to Manzano/Coyote Canyon areas. Mr MILLER felt the electronical recording tapes were inconclusive and could have been gathered from several conventional sources. No sightings, other than these, have been reported in the area.

4. Mr MILLER has contacted FTD personnel at W-P AFB, OH, who expressed an interest and are scheduled to inspect Dr. BENNEWITZ' data.

5. Request a DCII check be made on Dr BENNEWITZ.

6. This is responsive to HQ CR 44.

7. Command was briefed but did not request an investigation at this time.

DOCUMENT No 4

[redacted]

17 NOV 1980

CC

LIST

[redacted]

ZNY [redacted]

CT

[redacted] FOR AFOSI ONLY

R 171130Z NOV 80

FM HQ AFOSI BOLLING AFB DC//IVOE

TO [redacted]

INFO 7602 AINTELG FT BELVOIR VA//INSH

[redacted] FOR AFOSI ONLY

REF: REQUEST FOR PHOTO IMAGERY INTERPRETATION YOUR MSG 292030Z OCT 80.

SUBJECT CASE NR: [redacted]

1. SUBJECT NEGATIVES/FILM WERE ANALYZED BY HQ IVT AND 7602 AINTELG/IT AND THE FOLLOWING RESULTS WERE FOUND:

A. NEGATIVE #1: DEPICTING C-5A AIRCRAFT ON APPROACH AND STREAKING UNIDENTIFIED AERIAL OBJECT IN LOWER RIGHT PORTION OF FILM. FILM FOUND TO BE UNALTERED. SIZE DIFFERENTIAL WAS NOT CONSISTENT WITH SIZE OF AIRCRAFT. CONCLUSION INCONCLUSIVE

B. NEGATIVE #2: DEPICTING CYLINDER SHAPED UNIDENTIFIED AERIAL OBJECT IN UPPER LEFT PORTION OF PHOTO. FILM FOUND TO BE UNALTERED. FILM SHOWED OBJECT TO BE CONSISTENT WITH FIELD DEPTH AND CONSISTENT WITH RELATIVE SIZE OF FIXED OBJECTS. CONCLUSION: LEGITIMATE NEGATIVE OF UNIDENTIFIED AERIAL OBJECT. FOLTON/REINFELD METHOD DID NOT REVEAL VISIBLE MARKINGS ON OBJECT.

C. NEGATIVE #3: DEPICTING IRREGULAR SHAPED UNIDENTIFIED AERIAL OBJECT IN SEVEN FRAMES OF 8MM FILM. BECAUSE OF THE SIZE AND APPARENT SPEED OF OBJECT NO FURTHER CLASSIFICATION OR CONCLUSION COULD BE DRAWN. FILM SHOWN TO BE UNALTERED.

D. 34 INCHES OF 8MM FILM: DEPICTING APPARENT COLORED OBJECT MOVING IN FRONT OF STILL CAMERA. FILM FOUND TO BE UNALTERED. SPECTROGRAPHY REVEALED COLORS TO BE BASIC PRISM FEATURES. DEPTH ANALYSIS REVEALED OBJECT TO BE WITHIN 152MM OF CAMERA. OBJECT WAS NOT CONSISTENT WITH RELATIVE SIZE OF FIXED OBJECTS OBSERVED FOR SEVERAL SECONDS IN FILM. CONCLUSION: INCONCLUSIVE.

E. ORIGINAL NEGATIVE DEPICTING UNIDENTIFIED OBJECT. FILM FOUND TO BE UNALTERED. BECAUSE OF A LACK OF FIXED OBJECTS IN THE FILM, NO DEPTH ANALYSIS COULD BE PERFORMED. FOLTON REINFELD METHOD REVEALED OBJECT TO BE SAUCER SHAPED, APPROXIMATE DIAMETER [illegible] FEET. OBJECT CONTAINED A TRILATERAL INSIGNIA ON THE LOWER PORTION OF OBJECT. CONCLUSION: LEGITIMATE NEGATIVE OF UNIDENTIFIED AERIAL OBJECT.

F. REF YOUR REQUEST FOR FURTHER INFORMATION REGARDING HQ CR 44, THE FOLLOWING IS PROVIDED: CAPT GRACE 7602 AINTELG, INS CONTACTED AND RELATED FOLLOWING: (S/WINTEL) USAF NO LONGER PUBLICLY ACTIVE IN UFO RESEARCH, HOWEVER USAF STILL HAS INTEREST IN ALL UFO SIGHTINGS OVER USAF INSTALLATION/TEST RANGES. SEVERAL OTHER GOVERNMENT AGENCIES, LED BY NASA, ACTIVELY INVESTIGATES LEGITIMATE SIGHTINGS THROUGH COVERT COVER. (S/WINTEL/FSA) ONE SUCH COVER IS UFO REPORTING CENTER, US COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY, ROCKVILLE, MD 20852. NASA FILTERS RESULTS OF SIGHTINGS TO APPROPRIATE MILITARY DEPARTMENTS WITH INTEREST IN THAT PARTICULAR SIGHTING. THE OFFICIAL U.S. GOVERNMENT POLICY AND RESULTS OF PROJECT AQUARIUS IS STILL CLASSIFIED TOP SECRET WITH NO DISSEMINATION OUTSIDE OFFICIAL INTELLIGENCE CHANNELS AND WITH RESTRICTED ACCESS TO "MJ TWELVE". CASE ON BENNEWITZ IS BEING MONITORED BY NASA, INS, WHO REQUEST ALL FUTURE EVIDENCE BE FORWARDED TO THEM THRU AFOSI/IVOE.

REF YOUR REQUEST FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE. BECAUSE OF A CHANCE OF PUBLIC DISCLOSURE, NO KNOWLEDGEABLE PERSONNEL WITH SPA WILL BE PROVIDED. CONTINUE TO RECEIVE ASSISTANCE FROM INDIVIDUALS MENTIONED IN YOUR MESSAGE, MILLER, FUCATE. BECAUSE OF THE SENSITIVITY OF CASE, REQUEST THEY BE THOROUGHLY DEBRIEFED AT REGULAR INTERVALS.

GRADE [redacted]

[redacted]

REMEMBER THAT NEW READERS ARE ALWAYS NEEDED.
UFO JOURNALS ARE DISAPPEARING ELSEWHERE.
DON'T LET IT HAPPEN HERE!

DOCUMENT No 5.

MULTIPURPOSE INTERNAL OSI FORM Page (7)

(Complete only applicable items)

TO: DO NO.(S) / DET NO.(S) / HEADQUARTERS IVOS FROM: DO NO. / DET NO. / HEADQUARTERS	SUBJECT KIRTLAND AFB, NM, 8 Aug - 3 Sep 80, Alleged Sightings of Unidentified Aerial Lights In Restricted Test Range	FILE NO 8017D93-0/29 TRANSMITTAL DATE 26 Nov 80 SUSPENSE DATE

REFERENCE

AFOSI Form 96, 28 Oct 80, Same Title

- MINOR DISCREPANCIES NOTED ARE LISTED BELOW.
- YOUR DISTRICT IS DESIGNATED OFFICE OF ORIGIN.
- ATTACHED REQUIRES INVESTIGATION IN YOUR AREA.
- DETERMINE SUBJECT'S ACCESS TO CLASSIFIED INFORMATION AS REQUIRED BY OSIM 124-1, PARA 2-6-3
- FORWARD RESULTS DIRECTLY TO OFFICE OF ORIGIN, OR TO-
- NO FURTHER INVESTIGATION CONTEMPLATED
- OUR FILES REFLECT PRIOR INVESTIGATION BY ______, DTD ______, FILE ______ (By copy of this form ______ is requested to furnish ______ copies of prior investigation/letter summary, if applicable, etc ______)
- REPORT OF PRIOR INVESTIGATION/SUMMARY ATTACHED
- INVESTIGATION CONTINUING AND YOU WILL BE FURNISHED FURTHER REPORTS
- DISCONTINUE INVESTIGATION. FORWARD RESULTS OF ANY INVESTIGATION ACCOMPLISHED
- DISCREPANCIES BETWEEN LEAD REQUEST AND DEVELOPED INFORMATION ARE SET FORTH
- REPORT OF COMMAND ACTION HAS NOT BEEN RECEIVED.
- REQUEST STATUS OF THIS MATTER AND/OR DATE REPORT MAY BE EXPECTED. (Requester, forward 2 copies of this form.) (Recipient, use one received copy for answer with proper signature in remarks section unless OSI directives state reply not required.)
- REFER ATTACHED TO INTERESTED COMMANDER FOR INFORMATION OR ACTION IF NOT PREVIOUSLY REPORTED
- CHECK WORLD-WIDE LOCATOR FOR BELOW LISTED PERSON OR SUBJECT
- ATTACHED IS FORWARDED FOR INFORMATION AND/OR ACTION.
- UPON REMOVAL OF ATTACHMENT(S) ______ THE CLASSIFICATION ON THIS CORRESPONDENCE WILL BE ☐ RETAINED. ☐ DOWNGRADED TO ______ ☐ CANCELED. ☐ MARKED "FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY." (If classification is retained, with or without attachments, indicate reason for security classification and grouping per AFR 205-1.)

REMARKS

1. On 10 Nov 80, a meeting took place in 1606 ABW/CC Conference Room attended by the following individuals: BGen WILLIAM BROOKSHER, AFOSP/CC, COL JACK W. SHEPPARD, 1606 ABW/CC, COL THOMAS SIMMONS 1606 ABW/CV, COL CRES BACA, 1606 SPGp/CC, COL FRANK M. HUEY, AFOSI Dist 17/CC, LTC JOE R. LAMPORT, 1606 ABW/SJ, MAJ THOMAS A. CSEH, AFOSI Det 1700/CC, Dr. LEHMAN, Director, AFWL, ED BREEN, AFWL Instrumentations Specialist and Dr. PAUL F. BENNEWITZ, President Thunder Scientific Laboratory, Albuquerque. Dr. BENNEWITZ presented film and photographs of alleged unidentified Aerial Objects photographed over KAFB, NM during the last 15 months. Dr. BENNEWITZ also related he had documented proof that he was in contact with the aliens flying the objects. At the conclusion of the presentation, Dr. BENNEWITZ expressed an interest in obtaining financial assistance from the USAF in furthering his investigation regarding these objects. DR. LEHMAN advised DR. BENNEWITZ to request a USAF grant for research. DR. LEHMAN advised DR. BENNEWITZ he would assist him in filling out the proper documents.

2. On 17 Nov 80, SA RICHARD C. DOTY, advised DR. BENNEWITZ that AFOSI would not become involved in the investigation of these objects. DR. BENNEWITZ was advised

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that AFOSI was not in a position to evaluate the information and photographs he has collected. to date or technically investigate such matters.

3. On 26 Nov 80, SA DOTY received a phone call from an individual who identified himself as U.S. Senator HARRISON SCHMIDT, of New Mexico. SEN SCHMIDT inquired about AFOSI'S role in investigating the aerial phenomena reported by Dr, BENNEWITZ. SA DOTY advised SEN SCHMIDT that AFOSI was not investigating the phenomena: SA DOTY then politely referred SEN SCHMIDT to AFOSI Dist 17/CC. SEN SCHMIDT declined to speak with 17/CC and informed SA DOTY he would request that SAF look into the matter and determine what USAF agency should investigate the phenomena.

4. It should be noted that DR. BENNEWITZ has/had a number of conversations with. SEN SCHMIDT during the last few months regarding BENNEWITZ'S private research. SEN SCHMIDT has made telephone calls to BGEN BROOKSHER, AFOSP/CC regarding the matter since Security Police are responsible for the security of Manzano Storage Area.

DOCUMENT No 6.

IVCST

IN REPLY TO	AFOSI COMMUNICATION	DATE OF TRANSMITTAL 30 July 1981
TO: AFOSI/CC		SUBJECT Dr. PAUL FREDRICK BENNEWITZ Congressional Inquiry
FROM: AFOSI District 17/CC Kirtland AFB, NM 87117		

REFERENCE

8017D93-0/29

ITEMS CHECKED ARE APPLICABLE TO ABOVE SUBJECT

- INVESTIGATION HAS BEEN INITIATED AND REPORTS WILL BE FORWARDED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
- THIS MATTER IS ☐ PENDING ☐ CLOSED.
- REQUEST REPORT OF ACTION TAKEN (AFR 124-4).
- NOTE RESTRICTIVE LEGENDS ON FRONT OF THE ATTACHMENT(S).
- REQUEST INSTRUCTIONS AS TO DISPOSITION OF EVIDENCE LISTED BELOW.
- ATTACHED IS AN INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT (IIR) TRANSMITTED ELECTRICALLY IN THE INTERESTS OF TIMELINESS. NUMERICAL DESIGNATORS IN THE IIR ARE AS FOLLOWS: 1. COUNTRY; 2. REPORT NUMBER; 3. TITLE; 4. PROJECT NUMBER; 5. DATE OF INFORMATION; 6. DATE OF REPORT; 7. DATE AND PLACE OF ACQUISITION; 8. REFERENCES; 9. ASSESSMENT; 10. ORIGINATOR; 11. REQUEST EVALUATION; 12. PREPARING OFFICER; 13. APPROVING AUTHORITY; 14. SOURCE.
- ATTACHED IS AN INFORMATION COLLECTION REPORT (ICR) WHICH CONTAINS INFORMATION CONCERNING AN INDIVIDUAL UNDER YOUR COMMAND. THE ICR IS FURNISHED FOR YOUR INFORMATION ONLY AND IT DOES NOT CONSTITUTE A FORMAL OR COMPLETE INVESTIGATION OF THE INDIVIDUAL. IF A FORMAL INVESTIGATION IS WARRANTED, IT SHOULD BE REQUESTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH AFR 124-4.
- THE ATTACHED REPORT HAS BEEN LOANED TO THE USAF BY ANOTHER AGENCY. DISSEMINATION OF THAT REPORT TO ANOTHER AGENCY OR ITS PERMANENT INCORPORATION INTO ANY USAF RECORDS SYSTEM WILL NOT BE MADE WITHOUT PRIOR APPROVAL OF THE ORIGINATING AGENCY. WHEN THIS REPORT HAS SERVED ITS PURPOSE, IT WILL BE DESTROYED; NO RECORD OF THE REPORT IS BEING MAINTAINED BY AFOSI.
- WHEN ATTACHMENT(S) IS/ARE REMOVED, THE CLASSIFICATION OF THIS CORRESPONDENCE WILL BE ☐ RETAINED ☐ DOWNGRADED TO ☐ CANCELED ☐ MARKED "FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY"

OTHER/REMARKS

On 30 Jul 81, the 1606th ABW IG contacted DO 17/BID and advised that Senator PETER DOMENICI desired to talk to SA RICK DOTY regarding the matter involving BENNEWITZ. After checking with Col HARVELL, Acting AFOSI/CC, it was agreed SA DOTY and DO 17/CC would meet with Senator DOMENICI. Senator DOMENICI was present in the IG's Office but departed immediately to meet with BENNEWITZ. A subsequent check with Mr. TIJEROS, Senator DOMENICI's Aide, in an effort to determine the Senator's specific questions, determined his sole interest was to know whether AFOSI had conducted a formal investigation of SUBJECT. Mr. TIJEROS was informed that no formal investigation of BENNEWITZ was conducted by AFOSI. Mr. TIJEROS stated that he assumed if any information were available, and was to be requested from AFOSI, it would have to be requested from our Headquarters. He was provided Col BEYEA's name and the Bolling AFB address of our HQ AFOSI in event he desired any further information. Mr. TIJEROS thanked us and indicated no further inquiries from the Senator regarding this matter are anticipated.

8017D93-0/29 x

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POLISH GIRL, SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENT, 18 years old, greatly interested in UFO Phenomenon, seeks to correspond with other young people with similar interests. Write to: Miss Joanna Kuźmicka, Ugory 27c/82, 85-132, Bydgoszcz, Poland.

YUGOSLAVIAN RESEARCHER seeks correspondents. Please write to: Mr. Tomislav Radisavlevič, President of Svetozarevo UFO Society, c/o Poste Restante, 35000 Svetozarevo, Serbia, Yugoslavia.

EDITOR OF FSR would like to hear from any reader in or near the Ayrshire region of Scotland who can assist us with a simple local enquiry. *(NOT an investigation.)*

FROM THE ARCHIVES 2

Editorial by David Wightman in Uranus Vol. 2, No. 6 (June 1956)

THE AIR MINISTRY TALKS ON "FLYING SAUCERS"

On the 9th of April I wrote to the Air Ministry in London requesting an interview with an officer who was conversant with the "Flying Saucer Mystery". Not so very long ago, the very idea of doing this would immediately have resulted in one being labelled "Daft". But time and an awful lot of very convincing reports of "U.F.O.'s" (Unidentified Flying Objects, the military term for "Flying Saucers") have changed things more than somewhat. In short, my request was granted and I travelled down to London in the (very) small hours of the morning full of optimism.

I had arranged to meet a fellow "Saucerer" on the Air Ministry steps at 10 a.m. We met as arranged, and marched boldly up the imposing looking steps and through the glass doors. We were directed to the left and came to a quite ordinary looking "enquiry desk". Our appointment was confirmed so we wended our hopeful way up an escalator, into a lift (self-operated) and up another four floors. On this floor we "encountered" another desk and here we had to fill in a form. This done to the gentleman's satisfaction we were taken along more corridors until we at last arrived at *the* office.

Inside was an ordinary (everything was ordinary in the A.M.) desk which was occupied by three or four telephones and a handsome-looking individual, dressed in "civvies". Somehow it wasn't quite what I had expected but we were invited to "pull up a couple of chairs and make ourselves comfortable."

So our interview, which lasted for over two hours, began. I WASN't "tongue-tied" as I expected to be, and the questions simply flowed out in orderly array. For me to recite all the questions we asked the officer would simply confuse the layman; they weren't technical questions but to anyone who hadn't made a study of saucer sightings they wouldn't mean anything at all.

My first question concerned a sighting which took place in Scotland only last October; October 28th to be exact.[1] The object came to within twenty yards of the observer at an altitude of only 50ft. I was especially interested in this sighting for I had investigated it personally. However, I was doomed to disappointment. I had sent all the details of the case I had obtained to the A.M. some time ago, but in answer to my question now regarding the result of their investigation I was told that the A.M. does not investigate "second-hand sighting reports". I was rather surprised at this for the A.M. had actually *asked me* for further details. We made arrangements to have photostatic copies of letters written to me by the person concerned, these would be forwarded to the A.M.; the red tape would be cut and the wheels of investigation set in motion. I was promised that such results that COULD be released would be sent on to me. I had to be content at that.

We also had to be content with promises concerning two other sightings. We wanted the results of the A.M.'s investigation into the sighting made by young Steven Darbishire[2] who lives near Coniston in Lancashire. This sighting, you will remember, was remarkable because of the photograph Steven obtained. The second sighting was that made by a "part-time" R.A.F. flyer. He was Flt. Lt. Salandin.[3] "The thing had a bun-shaped top, a flange like two saucers in the middle and a bun underneath. It could not have been very far off for it more than filled my windscreen." This was part of Salandin's statement. The "man from the A.M." didn't know the answer to either of these two sightings. We did get a promise of any forthcoming information however. I was beginning to feel a little disgruntled, we were doing all the talking and getting nowhere at all. Maybe we were giving HIM information?

I decided to stick to sightings, however, surely I would get an answer sometime. I asked about another "air-to-air" sighting. This time it involved the pilot and co-pilot of a Portuguese "Skymaster"[4] which was flying between Dunsfold and Epsom. Following is the pilot's description: "it was long, shaped like a cigar and silvery as though made from aluminium. It flashed past, just under our nose and at tremendous speed."

I DID get an answer to this one, but it nearly resulted in my falling from my chair. "Yes, that sighting was investigated", I was told, "the A.M. is quite satisfied that what the pilot actually saw was one of those long toy balloons." To the layman this doesn't seem to fit: to the serious saucer student it sounds just plain "daft". I couldn't accept this and I made great haste to say so. I went at length into the details why I couldn't accept it. A restatement of the first reply was my only reward.

We tried two more sightings and the pattern changed somewhat. Answers we got all right but we were told we mustn't repeat them let alone print the information we had been given. This was because the answers contained secret material. The quotation regarding the Official Secrets Act was duly recited and there the matter ended.

I was still on sightings and I decided to try my luck

with the "Thing Which Blazed Over Britain"[5] Many of you will remember this incident. It occurred on March 24th, 1955. It hit the headlines in many newspapers the next day. It was given various descriptions and was seen from many different parts of Britain. Quite a number of witnesses described it changing colours, "Red, turning blue or green" was the description given in the Manchester "*Daily Dispatch*". A certain amount of evidence tended to show that it changed direction. Arthur Constance was so convinced that he had something that he made up an 18,000-word report and presented it to the A.M. So, I popped the question. I received the answer I might have expected. It was a meteor, Greenwich observatory said so. I had no intentions of arguing with the Greenwich observatory at that moment so that too I let drop.

I tried just one more sighting: that which took place at the glider championships at Lasham in Kent.[6] It hadn't been reported to the A.M.

I changed my method of attack (if you could call it that at its best).

The following are most of the replies to the other points we covered:

1) The A.M. do NOT co-operate with other countries on the saucer problem. I listed five other countries which had official investigations in progress. There was no comment from the A.M.

2) I asked for NUMBERS of cases solved and unsolved, so that some significance could be drawn from the percentages published by the A.M. Percentages by themselves, I remarked, meant nothing at all. "Numbers are not available," said the A.M.

3) There is NOT a separate body within the A.M. which investigates U.F.O.s

I was mildly surprised at one statement and this was that the Ministry were most anxious to avoid the development of a similar situation to that which prevailed in the U.S.A. at the moment.

I asked, out of curiosity more than anything else if he (the official) was privately interested in the subject. He replied in the negative but added that this was probably because he was so indoctrinated with official procedure. (He had held his present post since 1946.) He didn't know any other A.M. officials who were privately interested either.

He didn't think there was much chance of the report made out by the A.M. ever being made public.

Looking back on the whole interview; it was obvious that he hadn't told us all that he knew. Most of the answers came from "stock".

We were both reminded that to print anything we had been told not to could land us in serious trouble and, what is more, our chances of obtaining further interviews at the A.M. would be zero. One thing is certain: the A.M. ARE SERIOUSLY INTERESTED IN THE SAUCER PROBLEM, and they will continue to investigate all reports of U.F.O.s

We were shown to the door at approximately 12.40 p.m. and left after being invited to "call again if you think we can help you". The promise of information on the three sightings we had asked about was also renewed. I am now anxiously awaiting those reports.

Editorial by David Wightman in Uranus Vol. 3, No. 3 (December 1956)

On 21st April of this year your editor accompanied by Mr John Pitt visited the Air Ministry in London, an appointment having previously been obtained. The object of the visit was to obtain official information concerning sightings of U.F.O.s — reports, which have been made by experienced observers or have been seen under such circumstances as to render them unexplainable by the usual "stock answers". As has been evidenced in a previous issue of *URANUS* (June — Vol. 2, No. 6) little or no satisfaction was gained from a discussion which lasted over two hours — "long toy balloons" and "meteors" were the order of the day. The report, which did appear in this magazine, was purposely "mild": a much more critical write-up would have been a truer representation of both John Pitt's and your editor's reactions.

Information on a dozen or so apparently authentic sighting reports was sought — one of these was the much published "Brazier incident" which occurred on 28th October, 1955 — another, the best known of all English sightings and as far as can be ascertained the only English sighting to produce a really good photograph, the "Coniston Sighting". A third report was that concerning an R.A.F. fighter pilot, Flt. Lt. Salandin who, on 14th October, 1954, saw a Saucer from close range. These three sightings have been extensively investigated through one channel or another, the latter two by the A.M. themselves and the "Brazier Incident" by your editor. (Details of this amazing sighting were sent to the A.M. on request.) The point I want to make here is this — we were given no information at all on any of these incidents, *but* — the Air Ministry spokesman *promised to obtain such facts as he was able and forward the information on to your editor.* A considerable length of time was allowed to elapse before a letter of reminder was dispatched (20th June). Before that date and up to the last issue of URANUS (October) not a word which could be interpreted as an attack on the Air Ministry's attitude to the problem of Flying Saucers, had been written by J. Pitt or your editor — despite this, no word at all has been received from the A.M.

One does not expect promises to be broken or letters of reminder of such promises ignored. I think it is now time, six months after the original meeting, to

"expose" two wrong explanations given by the A.M. spokesman regarding two further sightings about which we requested information. Several other explanations were then, and still are, far from acceptable but this is not the time or place to discuss these. The two sightings we shall refer to here are first, the Portuguese Airlines "Skymaster" incident — this took place on 24th May 1955 and was fully described in "*Flying Saucer News*" — Summer 1955 issue. Briefly, the crew of the "Skymaster" saw and described the object as long and cigar shaped, being the colour of polished aluminium. "It flashed past under the nose of our aircraft at a terrific speed," said radio officer J. O. Almeida. The second false explanation was that in connection with "The Thing which Blazed over Britain". This much publicised affair took place on 24th March 1955.

The "Skymaster" incident was the first sighting we asked about to which we received a direct answer — and *what* an answer it was. "Oh yes, we did investigate this incident," said the spokesman, "we are quite satisfied it was a *long toy balloon*." All the people the writer has spoken to have laughed at this "explanation", Professor Filmer, in the October URANUS said, "A man piloting a plane who would say 'a long toy balloon — flashed past . . . at tremendous speed' would be both a fool and a liar." A student at Leeds University went further and proceeded to draw the plane and "balloon" in their respective positions as described by the observers — he went on to assume the plane's speed to be in excess of 150 knots and of course the "balloon" travelling at the velocity of the prevailing wind. He then propounded the law of triangle of velocities to show how impossible it was for the object to have been a balloon at the mercy of the air stream, no matter in what direction it was travelling.

The explanation we were given to account for the "Thing . . . etc" was, however, "a clanger howler of the first magnitude", to quote a well-known saucer book author. Even allowing for the fact that Arthur Constance's résumé of the evidence he had collected (see F.S.N. — Autumn, 1955) was a little tainted with over-elaboration and somewhat hasty conclusions, it is very evident that a meteor, which is what the Air Ministry say it was, possesses very few of the characteristics attributed to the object seen that 24th March by hundreds of people. *BUT* here is the real clanger — to back up their statement about it being a meteor, the A.M. claim that Greenwich Observatory said so. *Greenwich Observatory said nothing of the kind.* How do we know? — simple, your editor has a letter from the Royal Greenwich Observatory dated 25th May, 1956, which says, "We had some enquiries at the time concerning an apparition in March of last year, but we were not able to comment or confirm as *no observations of the object were made here*".

So it seems the A.M. is caught out in a misstatement and if it can happen once it can happen again — maybe it *has* already happened. The authorities here have benefited greatly from officials' mistakes in America and have clamped down very firmly on the subject. They didn't clamp down soon enough, however, and the best made "joint" can spring a "leak" or maybe it leaks in an unexpected place. No one expected Captain Ruppelt to write his book *The Report on the U.F.O.* — but he did, and it contained a juicy little sentence which catches the A.M. in this country out once again. At the interview last May, J. Pitt and your Editor were told that there is no liaison between them (the A.M.) and other countries. There is evidence against this contained in Ruppelt's book, for in one chapter it is clearly stated that two R.A.F. officers visited the Pentagon and had with them six single-spaced typewritten sheets of questions about Flying Saucers which they required answering. Does this suggest liaison or not? We think definitely yes.

Notes & References (added by FSR)

1. See *Maurice Brazier Describes His Saucer,* in FSR Vol. 2, No. 1 (Jan./Feb. 1956).
2. See Leonard G. Cramp's *Orthographic Projections,* in FSR Vol. 9, No. 5 (Sept./Oct. 1963) showing the Stephen Darbishire photo and the Adamski "scout" photo. (date of the Darbishire photo, taken near Coniston, Lancashire, was February 15, 1954.) See also FSR Vol. 1, No. 1, rear cover.
3. See FSR Vol. 1, No. 1 (Spring 1955): *Week-End Pilot in Near-Collision with Flying Saucer.*
4. See Report on p. 31 of FSR, Vol. 1, No. 3 (July/Aug. 1955.)
5. See *Pilots Express Doubts About Flaming Meteorite,* in FSR Vol. 1, No. 2 (May/June 1955). Some of the R.A.F. pilots who tried to pursue the huge object said not only that it changed course but also that it accelerated.
6. Reported in *A New Pattern of Behaviour,* by Denis Montgomery, on p. 15 of FSR Vol. 1, No. 4 (July/August 1955). The UFO, "boomerang-shaped", was seen apparently observing the National Gliding Championships at Lasham, Hampshire, on July 26, 1955. Mrs Yvonne Bonham, Secretary of the British Gliding Association, said the UFO seemed to be about 40ft. wide and was hovering over the glider in which the British champion, Philip Wills, was soaring. The UFO was at about 3,000 ft. and, after pausing for a while, it made off at a very high speed. (Interestingly enough we published another report not so long ago, as will be recalled, of a UFO observed by British gliding experts again at Lasham.) G.C.

FROM THE ARCHIVES 3

REPRINTED FROM FSR VOL. 2, NO. 5 (SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 1956)
"TELL US PLEASE, MR BIRCH!" SAYS JOHN PITT

THE Air Ministry has been interested in u.f.o.s. since 1947. This has been admitted in a statement to the Press. It has been admitted also that information has been exchanged between the Air Ministry and the U.S.A.F. Air Technical Intelligence Center, better known perhaps as A.T.I.C.

The branch of the Air Ministry which deals with u.f.o. reports is, according to the *Sunday Dispatch,* September 28, 1952, known as D.D.I. (Technical). This Air Ministry equivalent of its opposite number at A.T.I.C. is, rather ironically, housed *in* an attic.

To date this country has failed to produce the counterpart of the ubiquitous Major Keyhoe, so it will remain a mystery to us whether D.D.I. (Technical) has at its command all the apparently vast and variegated staff whose functions have so vividly been described both by the Marine Corps Major and, later, by the U.S.A.F. Officer, Captain Ruppelt, who was in charge of A.T.I.C.'s "Project Blue Book".

I would like to remind readers that A.T.I.C. went to some considerable pains to obtain the information published last year in the "Project Blue Book" Report. It appears there is a complete Air Intelligence Squadron (4602), one of whose chief functions is to investigate u.f.o. sighting reports, that there were at one time flights of the U.S.A.F.'s swiftest fighter aircraft, stripped of all armament, whose mission it was to pursue and to attempt to shoot only camera film at u.f.o.s. reported within the area of the bases where they were held in immediate readiness.

It would be interesting to know whether this country can boast that it has taken the same interest. Some considerable interest must have been taken in 1952, for Captain Ruppelt describes how he met at A.T.I.C. two R.A.F. Intelligence Officers who, on an official visit, had brought six single-spaced sheets of typescript containing questions on u.f.o.s. to be discussed with their opposite numbers in the U.S.A.F.

It would be interesting to know whether the Air Ministry has at its disposal the same number of civilian experts. Captain Ruppelt describes, in his recently-published *Report on Unidentified Flying Objects,* what he calls "Project Bear". This project was launched to obtain further information from that gleaned by solely Service personnel under projects "Sign", "Grudge" and "Blue Book", and was staffed by rocket engineers, chemists, mathematicians, physicists, astronomers, statisticians, as well as a psychological section which worked in conjunction with the Psychology Department of an American University.

If the Air Ministry has *not* taken this u.f.o. mystery as seriously as its American counterpart, I would like to know by what process of investigation it has been possible for the Air Ministry and the Under-Secretary of State for Air to state within a matter of weeks that flying saucers do *not* exist — according to an Air Ministry statement early in 1955 and, by the Under-Secretary of State for Air, in Parliament, in March the same year:

"Reports of flying saucers, as well as other abnormal objects in the sky, are investigated as they come in, but there has been no formal inquiry.

"About 90 per cent. of the reports have been found to relate to meteors, ballons, flares, and many other objects. The fact that the other objects are unexplained need be attributed to nothing more sinister than lack of data."

From the latter statement we deduce that 10 *per cent.* have not been explained; the figure upon which this percentage is based is not quoted but, according to my colleague, Ronald R. Russell, to whom most of the remainder of this article must be acknowledged, it was given as *15,000* from 1947-1954. This information, by the way, was solicited from an official at D.D.I. (Tech.) during a discussion held there by appointment in 1954.

At the time, therefore, of the Under-Secretary of State for Air's statement the estimated number of "unknowns" must have been slightly in excess of 1,500! This I think is a good starting point.

Brazier Sighting

In March this year I received a letter from David Wightman, Editor of *URANUS,* who invited me to accompany him on a visit to the Air Ministry. His purpose was to see what might be happening to these 1,500 plus unexplained u.f.o. reports and, in particular, to find out whether the Maurice Brazier ("Galloway") sighting had ever been investigated by the officials at D.D.I. (Tech.).

Readers will probably remember that this excellently reported sighting was published in the Nov.-Dec. issue last year of FLYING SAUCER REVIEW but, for the benefit of those who did not read this report, I would like to repeat that this was of a u.f.o. seen by Maurice Brazier, an ex-R.A.F. type, who was driving a van from Newton Stewart to his home, some time in October, 1955, on a fine moonlit night. Mr. Brazier watched this object for some time and made quite the most comprehensive report that I have yet had the pleasure to study.

The Public Relations Officer at the Air Ministry stated

that he had never heard of this sighting, saying that only reports which were sent by viewers themselves were investigated by the Air Ministry. He denied, by the way, that there was a separate branch in the Air Ministry that dealt solely with u.f.o. reports.

Slight Contradiction

During the discussion many sightings were discussed. A full account was written of this interview by David Wightman in the June issue of *URANUS,* and those who are interested should read the full story. My immediate interest was in the fact that we had been told that only sightings submitted by the persons immediately concerned were investigated. I therefore asked what had been the official statement on the u.f.o. seen on October 14, 1954, by Flt./Lt. J. R. Salandin. I was astonished to hear that this official had never officially been informed that this sighting had been reported.

Again for the benefit of readers who may not have heard this case, I would like to say that this pilot's report was submitted, together with a special recommendation from his Commanding Officer to Fighter Command Headquarters. The circumstances of this sighting are, briefly, as follows:

Whilst flying an R.A.F. Meteor, Flt./Lt. Salandin, of 604 Squadron, Royal Auxiliary Air Force, had been watching two unidentified objects high over Southend. He was, by the way, completely sceptical about the existence of flying saucers. When these objects passed out of sight, travelling at some considerable speed, he turned to look again to his front and saw another strange object coming directly at him. Describing this object as having "a bun-shaped top, a flange like two saucers in the middle, and a bun underneath," Salandin said that it was travelling at tremendous speed on his own level and that, after closing in, it swerved and passed on his port side. His only regret, and ours, is that he did not have the presence of mind to press the button of his camera-gun.

I wonder how this Service report was explained and under what circumstances it had not officially come to the ears of the Air Ministry's official spokesman?

David Wightman was promised that, provided that the Maurice Brazier report was forwarded through the official channels, he, the P.R.O., would see that it went to the appropriate section. This, incidentally, after having previously informed us that there was no separate branch which dealt with u.f.o. reports.

Wightman and I discussed what we had been told during this long interview and he passed to me a letter he had received from Maurice Brazier in which a full description appeared, plus some illustrations, of the "Galloway" u.f.o. I had three photostat copies made of this letter and handed one copy to an official at D.D.I. (Tech.) itself. A second copy was sent by hand to the P.R.O. at the Air Ministry, and a third, together with the original, went back to David Wightman, suggesting that Mr. Brazier should now write a covering letter to the Air Ministry and include this phostat copy. Whether or not Maurice Brazier had done so I do not know, but I do know that there are two copies in the hands of the Air Ministry.

I wonder how they have been classified — "Explained" or "Unexplained"?

Radar Trackings

So far I have dealt only with two reports which may or may not have been classified. My next case concerns a u.f.o. that was tracked on a radar screen, watched through the sighting telescope of the same radar set, and which, from circumstantial evidence, seems also to have been observed by the crew of an R.A.F. Vampire night-fighter. This case was reported by the War Office and by the R.A.F. aircrew concerned. This case, unlike the two I have discussed, *has* been "explained" by the Air Ministry, but more anon.

In November 3, 1953, Flying Officers T. S. Johnson and C. Smythe were flying over Kent at an altitude of some 20,000 feet when they saw very high above themselves an unidentifiable object travelling at a tremendous airspeed. On their return to base they made a full report and later were interrogated for an hour and a half by Intelligence Officers at Fighter Command.

This sighting took place latish in the morning. In the early afternoon Sergeant H. Waller, of 265 H.A.A. Regt., R.A., was operating an Army type 3, Mark VII, radar set at the barracks at Lee Green when he tracked on the screen a large "blip" moving slowly at 61,000 feet. This he said was an object "three or four times larger than the largest airliner." Using the sighting telescope attached to the set, he and four others observed a circular object which emitted intermittent flashes. This sighting was investigated by Derek Dempster and was first published under his name in the *Daily Express* on November 11, 1953.

The Air Ministry's rationale was that a radio-sonde meteorological balloon had been released at 2 p.m. that afternoon from Crawley, that it had drifted slowly over East Grinstead, and had descended slowly by parachute into the Channel near Eastbourne at 3.30.

Some Balloon!

That may well be so. *A radio-sonde balloon is, however, only some 12 feet in diameter. The "Skyhook" balloon, the largest Met. balloon in use, is only 75 feet in diameter. The object watched by Sergeant Waller would have been, according to his analogy, of some 350 to 450 feet in diameter! The object observed by the radar oper-*

ator was hovering *over* Kent *for some considerable time, the radio-sonde balloon was drifting over Sussex! The object seen by the Vampire aircrew was also seen over Kent* — although, in all fairness, it would be begging the question to assume that this was (i) the same object or (ii) that it had not flown out of the area in a south-westerly direction.

This latter question-begging is, I suggest, trivial in comparison to that which seems, in the face of fact, to have been indulged in by the Air Ministry!

I am reliably informed that there are three large wooden filing cabinets in the D.D.I. (Tech.) "attic." In each cabinet were three drawers, locked by Yale-type locks, and doubly secured by a hinged plate locked in turn by a large padlock. In these drawers, so he was informed in 1954, lay the 15,000 u.f.o. reports which had been investigated since work began in 1947.

I have worked in an Intelligence Branch of the War Office; oddly enough, its Headquarters are now on another floor in the same building that houses D.D.I. (Tech.). I am therefore sympathetic to D.D.I. (Tech.) in more ways than one. This sympathy, however, is confined only to the security side of D.D.I. (Tech's.) work.

It is virtually impossible to make head or tail of the Air Ministry where policy in this matter of u.f.o.s is concerned. It is patent that its left hand knoweth not what its right hand is doing. This is borne out by the contradictions and rebuttals that volley back and forth in successive official Air Ministry statements.

Whether this might be part of the policy itself, necessitated perhaps by security, I know not, but I do know that it is not good intelligence. After some nine years of admitted and denied interest in existent and then non-existent flying saucers, I am beginning to understand the pedantic wag who, in a well-known reference work, divided the word "intelligence" into the two categories, "common" and "military."

It would be to the advantage of us all to know what steps are being taken to resolve this mystery. It would perhaps be the *coup de grâce* to quite a high percentage of those who profess to be in fuller possession of facts than even the Air Ministry. It would, however, restore the faith of this country's "Ufologists" in Air Ministry "Bumbledom" if some representative of D.D.I. (Tech.) or, better still, the Secretary of State for Air, Mr. Nigel Birch, would at this late date put us in the picture where Air Ministry u.f.o. research is concerned.

Until some such statement or report is made public, I recommend readers to this pithy observation by Thoreau:

"*Some circumstantial evidence is very strong, as when you find a trout in the milk.*"

PROPERTIES OF THE UFO PHENOMENON

Dr. J. Allen Hynek

(A paper recently given at a MUFON meeting)

THE crux of the argument between those who take the UFO phenomenon seriously and those who don't, reduced to its essentials, is whether the UFO phenomenon represents something really new to us and to science, or whether the contents of all UFO reports (regardless of the professional or technical expertise of the witnesses) can be explained in pedestrian terms and, therefore, all serious talk about UFOs is just a grand illusion.

New Empirical Observations

From the standpoint of the philosophy of science, as Professor Goudge, former Chairman of the Department of Philosophy at the University of Toronto, has pointed out (and as I have quoted him in *The UFO Experience*), the question is whether the contents of UFO reports represent new empirical observations, in the sense that the first observations of bacteria or the first observations of the induction of electrical currents, were new empirical observations which could not be explained by the scientific paradigm of the day but required new explanation schemes and new concepts.

Now it is quite clear that the contents of many initial UFO reports emphatically do not represent new empirical information: the host of misinterpretations of balloons, aircraft, planets, meteors, advertising planes, etc. attest to that! The question is, are there *some* UFO reports ... it doesn't matter how many ... whose contents *do* represent something entirely new to us, in any area of human experience?

In asking this, we must not limit ourselves to asking, "Do UFO reports represent someone else's NASA, or are they from a parallel universe, or are they left over from some past Atlantean civilization?" We ask only: do the contents of some UFO reports represent something truly new ... new empirical observations?, as Professor Goudge has asked.

The contents of the UFO reports can indeed be regarded as something new if the properties ... in particular, the *combination* of properties ... of the UFO phenomenon do *not* match the properties, or combination of properties, of the things which are com-

monly *misinterpreted* as UFOs. That is, a meteor exhibits high speed and a helicopter can hover near the ground, but neither a meteor nor a helicopter can exhibit, sequentially, hovering and meteoric speed. Yet there are hundreds of cases in which the reported UFO has exhibited both the ability to hover and to travel at speeds completely unattainable by a helicopter.

List of the Reported Properties

Let us therefore list the most frequently reported properties (the dynamics, characteristics, behavior, etc.) of the UFO phenomenon and find out whether there is a difference between them and those of IFOs. Do they, or do they not, match the properties of the things most commonly used to explain away the UFO phenomenon? An illustration from literature might be helpful here: Suppose someone claimed they had a heretofore undiscovered play by Shakespeare. How could this be tested? Well, for one thing, experts would compare the style, the phrases, the kind of words most frequently used, of the alleged Shakespeare play with those of his known plays. Suppose, for instance, that the former had words in it that were not used in Shakespeare's day, or expressions that were completely foreign to those of his day; the alleged play would be declared an obvious fraud since its "properties" did not match those of the true plays.

In our context, it is not a question of fraud but merely of finding out for ouselves, rather than trusting to "authority", whether the properties of the "knowns" (the IFOs) match those of the "unknowns", the UFOs. If they do, then there is no way of distinguishing between the two and all UFOs might well really be IFOs. If diamonds could not be distinguished from coal, then the existence of diamonds would be extremely hard to prove!

Aristotle and the Horses' Teeth

We should not accept the word of those "authorities" who claim, without having done the testing, that UFOs and IFOs are really the same. There is a story told of two monks in medieval times who got to arguing about how many teeth a horse had. So, in true medieval fashion, they consulted the works of the great authority, Aristotle, but nowhere could they find that he had said anything about horses' teeth, and so the argument was never settled. Meanwhile, in the field just outside their windows, some horses were grazing. It never occurred to the monks to go out and find out for themselves, which would have been the truly scientific method. No, they had to depend on authority, and were helpless when authority failed them. Let us not emulate them, but find out for ourselves.

Look at the Evidence

At this point the "authorities" may look upon us with pity and deplore our naiveté. Don't we *know* that a person can be misled and *think* that a meteor hovered in the air when, of course, it really didn't, or that a helicopter hovered noiselessly a few feet off the ground and then took off with unheard of acceleration, when it really didn't? Don't we *know* that even if a dozen independent witnesses say they saw something hover noiselessly and then take off with incredible speed, that they were all deluded and that none of this really happened?

No, we do NOT know that these witnesses could be that grossly misled, and we ask, what is your proof that what *you* say is correct? *If, in a court of law, a dozen witnesses testify that they saw the defendant murder the victim, is the jury justified in returning a verdict of "not guilty"? Yet that is exactly what our cocksure authorities are asking us to do ... to bring in a verdict of "There are no new empirical observations inherent in the contents of UFO reports". Furthermore, we have been in the courtroom to hear the testimony of the witnesses, while they have been loitering outside the courtroom doors!*

Go for the Horses' Teeth

In my attempt to "find out how many teeth a horse has", I have gone to the horses themselves ... to the UFO reports. I have reviewed the contents of over 400 cases, from many sources, selected on the basis of the extent to which each case was investigated. I included many cases I have personally investigated and many cases whose investigation was undertaken by persons whose competence and integrity were well known to me. Preference was given to United States cases but many foreign ones were included when I felt the quantity and quality of the evidence warranted this. Furthermore, I graded the cases A, B, and C as to overall quality. Obviously, the latter is somewhat subjective but the experiment can be repeated by anyone, using material they select, and I urge that this be done. A computer is useful; I used a program written especially for this purpose.

UFOs do display new properties

What were the results? The details will be published separately after further analysis has been finished, but the main elements of the results are clear: many of the most frequently reported properties of the UFO phenomenon, as reported from over the world and by responsible and competent persons, and those properties taken in combination, *are different* from the properties of those events, phenomena, and objects generally offered as explanation for the UFO phenomenon. The UFO phenomenon, therefore, represents new empirical observations and thus, by definition, does not fit into the present scientific paradigm.

Historical Precedents in Science

But this should hardly surprise us: this is not new in the history of science. Think of the history of fossils, or of Harvey and the circulation of the blood, of Semmelweiss and puerperal fever, of Lieuwenhoek and his "little animalcules", of Pasteur and the bacterial nature of disease, of Wegener and continental drift ... and of all those things now fully a part of our present scientific paradigm but which were once well outside the bounds of the science of earlier days.

Niels Bohr, father of atomic physics, once wrote, "Progress in science is impossible without a paradox". It is the things that don't fit in with our customary thinking that lead to breakthroughs: those that fit merely lead to refinements.

And no one, that is, no one who has diligently studied the subject, can doubt that in the UFO phenomenon we do have a first-class paradox ... certainly something that does not fit! It is only a matter of time ... as it was for all the other things and concepts that once were spurned and derided by contemporary science ... before the scientific community slowly comes to recognize the significance of the UFO phenomenon.

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MORE BOOKS ON UFOs IN CHINA

On page 21 of FSR Vol. 29, No. 2, we announced two forthcoming books by Mr. Paul Dong, namely *Zhongguo Si Rechao (The Four Major Mysteries of Mainland China)* and *Feidie Bai Wen Bai Da (Questions and Answers on UFOs).*

The first of these is now out and we have received it. It is in an English language edition (and we have not yet heard word of any Chinese version of it). It is published by Prentice-Hall Inc., New Jersey, 1984, price US$8.95. Foreword by Dr. Hynek. As I explained in FSR 29/2, the four major mysteries are (1) UFOs; (2) Psychic Phenomena and Faculties; (3) the ancient Chinese art of Qi Gong or Ch'i-Kung (Breath-Control); and (4) the Yeti/Bigfoot Problem.

Lack of Entity Encounters

In a forthcoming issue I shall give an abstract of the important UFO cases in the 74 (out of 209) pages that deal with UFOs. Though the book is excellent and fascinating, and a *must* for anyone who can get hold of a copy, I must emphasise that it is an enormous disappointment for those whose principal interest is UFOs. It gives plenty of reports of lights in the sky and fly-overs, but very, very little indeed about entities or close encounters — much less, indeed, than Shi Bo's book, on which we reported in FSR 28/6. And the reasons for this are not difficult to fathom out. Firstly, as Paul Dong tells us, *the coming of the UFOs to China has been very traumatic indeed, a very great shock for the Chinese people. Secondly, of course, and I mention this again below, nobody in China feels free to talk about anything.* But yet it might be argued that Shi Bo's book, which gave so much more information, disproves this thesis. It does not. For, so far as I can ascertain, it does not seem that Shi Bo's book was ever published inside China, in Chinese!

In his Foreword, Dr. Hynek comments as follows on the disappointing aspects of the UFO Section of *"The Four Major Mysteries of Mainland China":*

"There seems to be an absence, however, of 'Close Encounters of the Second and Third Kinds', that is, cases in which the UFOs have interacted with the environment, and especially cases in which humanoid creatures are described. Whether this is due to the reluctance of the Chinese to report such very bizarre happenings (in view of the late severe restrictions on the reporting of any UFOs) must remain conjecture until we can sample in greater depth the Chinese UFO 'scene'. My own feeling is that in time these Close Encounter cases will surface. Even in the United States there is great reluctance on the part of witnesses to report the truly strange sightings."

Dr. Hynek's final sentence hits the nail absolutely on the head of course. First of all, we outsiders — or at any rate a few of us — have now become quite blasé about the outrageous UFO Phenomenon, and we are accustomed to lapping up the most stupefying cases without turning a hair. We are already really very spoilt.

Need for Caution in China

But in China things are bound to be very different. *Any citizen of any Communist state has had to learn to watch his step if he wants to stay alive, and he knows that official policy may swing around like a weather-vane in the twinkling of an eye. Especially is this so for anyone who has gone through what China has gone through in the last 35 years — especially during the so called "Cultural Revolution". Such a person is going to be mighty prudent about what he says to ANYBODY about anything — let alone UFOs. (China has no proper legal system in the civil courts, and according to a report in the London DAILY TELEGRAPH this month, the Chinese have executed some 10,000 people since August 1983. And that is already a much milder regime than it was under Mao. Were I a Chinese, I wager you wouldn't find me in any hurry to talk about UFOs!)*

No Vehicle-stopping Cases

So we shall have to wait. One curious thing I note in passing, namely that the book seems to contain no mention of vehicle stoppages in China (nor does the other book, *Questions and Answers.)*

But Paul Dong does emphasise that neither he nor any other of China's civilian UFO investigators have any access whatsoever to military or official files (any more than the public do in the USA or USSR or Britain or Europe or any other country in the world).

Government Secrecy

In China, as everywhere else, such files are rigorously secret, and in any case you may bet your boots that in no country on our planet will any Government ever 'come clean' and publish the sort of stuff that we have been publishing in FSR for nearly thirty years. We shall continue to hear the usual chatter from time to time about 'forthcoming Ministry revelations'. And you may rest assured that when they come they will be the usual reports of puzzling lights in the sky (nice and harmless) or choice stories about light-houses and such-like.

We must assume that all the really spectacular Chinese close encounter and entity cases, as well as the vehicle-stoppage and radar cases etc., are (as Paul Dong himself admits) safely kept under military wraps. We shall be unwise if we expect too much.

"Questions and Answers on UFOs"

In a forthcoming issue I shall also give an abstract in translation of all the interesting UFO cases in the second book, *Feidie Bai Wen, Bai Da,* which I have likewise just received from Paul Dong. So far as I know there is no English version of it. It is published by the Derlin Shuju Book Company of Hong Kong under Paul Dong's real Chinese name (which is Lin Wen-Wei in Wade/Giles system, and the same in Pinyin). The book costs HK$12.00, contains 114 pages, and about 26 or 27 photographs of UFOs, all of which, except one, are from USA or Japan or Europe and are all already well known. The single exception, from the Chinese world, is a snapshot of 2 UFOs taken in Taibei (Capital of Taiwan, Republic of China — i.e. *Free China).* The picture was taken by a Mr. Chi Zhong-Jie on the evening of August 1, 1973, and Paul Dong tells us that it is considered to be the first UFO photo obtained in the Chinese world.

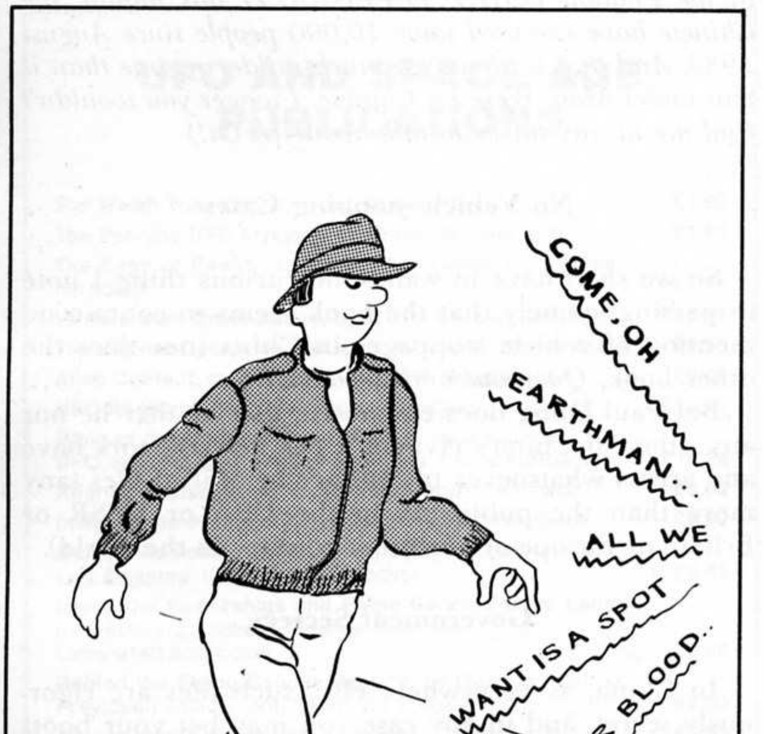
This second book is an equally great disappointment on the score of entities and close encounter cases, and patently for the reasons that I have already set forth above.

Two Remarkable Cases

It does, however, contain one most interesting 19th. century teleportation case and the case of a Chinese soldier who, in 1975, experienced precisely the same horrific time-distortion — including preternatural sudden growth of hair and beard, and eyebrows — as the Chilean soldier Corporal Armando Valdés whose nightmare I recounted in *The Arica Encounter* (FSR Vol. 23, No. 5, 1978).

I shall give full translations of this Chinese teleportation case and this Chinese time distortion case in a forthcoming issue.

(All names above in Pinyin system). G.C.



A TRICKY BUSINESS?

In a recent letter, a British correspondent offered to sell FSR *"an actual Ministry of Defence signal"* giving details of a UFO sighting over Britain.

We have sent our correspondent the following reply:—

April 5, 1984

Dear Sir,

In reply to your enquiry dated March 26, I write to say that our company is interested neither in purchasing nor in acquiring nor in having sight or knowledge of any document, confidential or not, purporting to have been abstracted from the files of the Royal Air Force or of any other of H.M. Government's Armed Forces or Departments.

We recall that an attempt was made at Uxbridge a few years ago to pass such a document into our possession.

We publish UFO reports from every part of the world, and the flow of information never dries up, so that we are fortunately in no need of material from such sources as you indicate, and consequently we are not likely to fall for so transparent a trick.

INVISIBLE BARRIERS

J. M. Buehring

Mr. Mark Buehring lives in the USA and has been a reader of FSR for many years.

THE invisible barrier is one of the more useful devices employed by at least some of those who, from wherever or whenever, occasionally favor us with a visit. This is the unseen protective shield used to keep potentially harmful agencies at a safe distance. They may also manifest with no UFO in sight, and in the most unlikely places.

Following is a catalogue of eighteen such reports, each containing a reference to an invisible "barrier", "force field", or unseen "wall". The reports are dated 1935 — 1980, and are of varying reliability. Reports have been included whether or not they mention the presence of an unidentified flying object.

1. County Mayo, Ireland (1935).

A girl found herself trapped in a wooded area on top of a hill. When she tried to leave one way, she would find herself walking in the opposite direction. She then tried to get out the way she got in, and found her way blocked by an "invisible wall" which was "so solid she could follow it round with her hands." Later in the night, a group of people searching for the girl passed within 20 yards of her position, but could not see her or hear her calls for help, although she could see and hear them. Later, she discovered that the barrier was no longer there, and was able to return home.

2. Oxford, England (c. 1947).

An RAF sergeant was riding his bicycle in the grounds of Newnham Park when he suddenly seemed "to have hit a brick wall and was thrown violently over the handlebars on to the ground." Nothing was seen or subsequently found which could account for the accident.

3. Westminster, Massachusetts, U.S.A. (1949).

Betty Aho, age 12 (later the famous abductee Betty Andreasson), encountered a small entity rising out of a hole in the ground while playing in the woods. Thinking it was an animal, she threw some rocks at it. The rocks "hit something in mid-air and just fell down!... they fall about an arm's length from the person. I throw them and they stop, and they go down straight" as if they hit a wall "but there is no noise to it." The entity was about three feet tall, had grey skin, large dark eyes, a tear-drop shaped face, and buttons on its chest. When the being pressed one of the buttons, a small ball of light emerged from a hole in its chest. This ball attached itself to Betty's forehead, causing her to feel sleepy, slowly fall backwards, and hear voices in her head.

4. North Devon, England (about 1/2 hour before dawn one day in May 1957).

Mr. "J. P." had pulled his truck on to the unused runway of Winkleigh airfield to have some coffee. There he observed a large object, glowing a fluorescent blue, shaped like a submarine and having two fins on the end. He decided to have a closer look, but was unable to get nearer than about 90 (or 200?) yards. Mr. "P" described this experience as "just like walking into a cushion... (the barrier) seemed to completely surround the object, and on trying to walk towards it, the feeling was like walking into an invible air cushion resisting your movement. You could actually lean on it." The object took off straight up, without a sound, leaving behind a faint black circle about 50 feet in diameter. After the incident, the witness found his watch to be running slow by 20 minutes.

5. Rybinsk, U.S.S.R. (Summer, 1961).

A large disc-shaped object, along with several smaller discs, appeared and hovered at an estimated altitude of 20,000 metres over a hill on which there was a new ground-to-air missile installation. An order was given to open fire, and a salvo of rockets was launched. All of these exploded simultaneously and harmlessly about 2 km. before reaching their target. More rockets were fired with the same result. The smaller saucers then swooped down and powerfailed the whole installation.

6. South Central Missouri, U.S.A. (7.00 a.m., February 14, 1967).

A farmer saw one of his cows looking at something in a nearby field. He looked over to the east of his barn, and saw an object resembling an over-turned soup bowl. The object was 12-15 feet in diameter, 6 feet high, grey-green in color, and sitting on a 2 1/2 foot high shaft. Bright lights of constantly changing colors were flashing from the rim. Several small objects or creatures could be seen moving about beneath it. As he approached to within 30 feet, he threw a rock at the object. The rock struck something unseen 15 feet from its target and fell to the ground. He threw another rock at the upper part of the object, and it

"skipped off of the invisible field with no sound." He got to the place where the first rock had hit and could get no closer. There was, he said, "just a pressure" which stopped him. The object ascended, silently and quickly, leaving no traces in the muddy ground.

7. Itaperuna, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (8.00 p.m., February 7, 1969).

Sr. Nélson Leite and Sr. Manoel C. Leite saw "a ball of light, flattened on its underpart, hovering at about three metres above the ground." Investigating, they were stopped at about 100 metres from the object "as though by an 'invisible wall'". The object increased its luminosity and shot off straight up. Both witnesses found themselves sweating heavily. Scorched soil was found at the place over which the object had hovered. (See also Case 10).

8. Awanui, New Zealand (1.00 a.m., February 22, 1969).

Nathan Brown, a Maori, was walking home from a bar when he noticed a light behind a bush on the side of the road. Behind the bush, enshrouded in a luminous haze, he found three beings, two of whom were "men" sitting with their feet in a ditch with their backs to him. The third party present was a pale young woman with white hair, wearing a white sleeveless gown, lying across the ditch, as if supported by an unseen board. When he stepped between the men to see what was wrong with the woman, he encountered an invisible force, which he compared to "a bar across his stomach". He tried again and again to advance, but could not do so, each time encountering the same barrier. The same "fuzzy wall" also surrounded the men, as he found when he tried to grab one. He could not get his hand closer than one foot to the entity's body. At this point, he became frightened, went back to the road, performed an obscene protective ritual, and ran off. Strange markings were found at the site the next day. Brown felt unusually tired for three weeks after his encounter.

9. Itajuba, Minas Gerais, Brazil (May 1969).

Sr. Clixto Borges de Mouros was driving along a highway at night when, somewhere between Pouso Alegre and Maria da Fé, his car struck "an invisible wall". The car remained stationary while its wheels spun and its lights went out. The witness saw overhead "an object from which came a dazzling brightness." When the object moved away, the car lights came back on again. The object next passed over and powerfailed a nearby town.

10. Itaperuna, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (May 1971).

Sr. Nélson Vieira Leite, a farmer and businessman, observed a greenish object "resembling a soup-plate upside down" descend into a nearby meadow. Investigating, Sr. Leite was amazed to discover, at about ten metres from the object, that he was no longer walking, and had not been for several minutes. He "had by now somehow or other lost all sense of time" and felt "half-numbed". No matter how much he tried, he could not make his legs move him in a forward direction. He was not paralysed, for he was able to flail about and turn his body around to face back the way he had come. From behind him, all of a sudden, raced Manoel Carlos, his nephew. Manoel was not so fortunate as to have been walking when he encountered the barrier, with the result that he was unconscious for several hours thereafter. The "soup-plate" took off a few minutes later, leaving behind burnt grass at the place over which it had hovered.
(See also Case 7).

11. Duluth, Minnesota, U.S.A. (11.15 p.m., October 7, 1973).

Mrs. Wallace L. had "the feeling that something was going on outside". She then heard sounds like footsteps on her wooden porch and a noise at her screen door. Going outside, she observed an object which looked like a diffuse silver-colored cloud hovering over a tree in her backyard. It was projecting a brilliant beam of white light through the living room window of a neighbour's house (the people inside were asleep at the time). A street light nearby was blinking off and on and the neighborhood dogs were barking and howling. After fifteen minutes, the cloud dissipated to reveal a domed disc with a glowing red bottom and what looked like about ten landing struts hanging down from the rim. The witness felt that the object "knew what she was thinking". When she wondered what the greenish thing she could barely see at the top of the object was, it obligingly tilted toward her, revealing the thing to be a glowing arm-like "antenna". Mrs. L. decided to approach the object. When about 20 feet from the tree over which it was hovering, she felt as though she "hit a wall and could see nothing but silver. Upon backing up, her sight returned and when she walked forward the same thing happened again." Later, the object ascended vertically, leaving a hole in the overcast. The next day, Mrs. L. remembered nothing of the weird events of the previous night until reminded by one of the three other witnesses.

12. Unknown Mediterranean Island (1975).

A UFO appeared over a NATO missile installation and an order was given to destroy it. Four missiles were fired, and all exploded before they could reach their target. The object then apparently powerfailed the missile system. The remains of the missiles were found to be covered with holes.

13. Durham, England (late 1975).

Mrs. Dilys Cant encountered an invisible barrier when she repeatedly tried and failed to back her car into a vacant parking space. She said it seemed as if she was backing into a kerb, although nothing was visible to account for the difficulty in entering the parking space. Two other motorists tried to drive, and then push, their cars into the same space, to no avail. Mrs. Cant's daughter reportedly was "prevented from entering the space by an invisible force field."

14. Serra do Mouro, Novo Trento, Brusque, Santa Catarina, Brazil (7.00 p.m., September 3, 1976).

A farm worker, João Romeu Klein, was returning home from a visit to a friend when he saw a disc-shaped object approaching. It took up a position over the road ahead, and projected from the center of its base an intense red light, within which descended three small beings about one metre in height. The object moved off, and said beings took up a position across the road, barring his way. The witness drew his big knife "and threw it straight at them, but the knife seemed to encounter an invisible obstacle and was deflected." One of the entities reacted by pointing a "rod" at Klein, which emitted a beam of bluish-white light. The beam struck the witness on the left thigh, causing unconsciousness. His left leg was stiff for a few days thereafter.

15. Winchester Bypass, Hampshire, England (9.00 p.m., November 14 , 1976).

Joyce Bowles and Edwin Pratt noticed an orange glow in the sky as they drove along the highway. Turning off on to another road, their vehicle began to "shudder and shake as though it were coming to pieces." The car veered diagonally off the road and on to the grass verge where it stopped. The witnesses observed an orange cigar-shaped object about 15 feet long hovering about a foot off the ground on jets of vapour. There was a window in the top, left part of the object, through which could be seen three "heads". An entity appeared from the object, apparently by walking right through the side of it. He was about 6 feet tall with long blond hair and a beard, and was wearing a silvery suit. He looked in the car, and was seen to have pink eyes. He moved to the rear of the car, and did not reappear. When the witnesses turned back around to look at the object, it was gone. They started the car and tried to move forward, but it "was as though they were pushing against an invisible wall". The wheels spun and the engine stalled. They tried again, and were able to leave without difficulty.

16. Fort St James, British Columbia, Canada (November 3, 1977).

Two teenagers (one of whom has had several UFO encounters) saw a half-sphere of glowing light hovering behind some trees. They tried to get closer but "a force or something stopped them." Large blue sparks shot out of the object as the witnesses ran back to their truck. The light followed and played "games" with them for more than an hour.

17. Borisoglebsk, U.S.S.R. (after midnight, June 16, 1978).

V. G. Paltsev was hitchhiking home when he saw a glowing object in a field and walked towards it. It had a transparent dome on top, inside of which three creatures with egg-shaped heads and long fingers could be seen working at a control console. When he got to within 25 yards of the object he was "stopped by an invisible force field and blacked out." When he regained consciousness, his briefcase was lying next to him, but it now looked "old and frayed". The "force field" was now gone and he started walking toward the object again. This time he was knocked down by a blast of wind and it started to glow and ascend. His watch had stopped, but he discovered from a passing motorcyclist, who gave him a ride, that he had experienced a 45 minute memory lapse. Under hypnosis, he reported having been led inside the object by its operators. They put his briefcase into some kind of device. When taken out again, it was in its present dilapidated condition.

18. Moscow, U.S.S.R. (June 15, 1980).

Lt. Col. Oleg Karyakin observed an object which looked like a bowl reversed on top of a smaller plate hovering about 30 metres from his house. It was emitting a luminous pink vapour and was humming. He tried to approach it, "but was repelled sharply by what seemed to be a totally invisible and insurmountable barrier". The UFO then gave off several blue-green flashes and departed. Several other persons living nearby supposedly witnessed this event, including a man who lives above street level. He claimed he could see an occupant in the saucer through the transparent cupola on top.

Notes and References

1. John Michell & Robert J. M. Rickard. *Phenomena.* New York: Pantheon Books, 1977, p. 95. This business of trying to go one way and then finding oneself walking in the opposite direction might indicate psychic control.

2. Gordon Creighton, *Itaperuna Again.* FSR Vol. 18, No. 2 (March-April 1972), p. 15.
3. Raymond E. Fowler. *The Andreasson Affair, Phase Two.* Englewood Cliffs, N.J.: Prentice-Hall, Inc., 1982, pp. 80-91, 255. Invisible barriers seem to produce no audible sound waves when struck.
4. Richard Farrow, "Landing on Winkleigh Airfield" (Reader's Reports). *FSR Case Histories, Supplement 8* (December 1971), p. 16. See also FSR Vol. 18, No. 3 (May-June 1972), p. iii.
Ron Toft, *"The Alleged Landing at Winkleigh"* (Reader's Reports). *FSR Case Histories, Supplement 13* (February 1973), p. 16.
5. Gordon Creighton, *Amazing News from Russia.* FSR Vol. 8, No. 6 (November-December 1962), p. 28. An account of this incident was also published in Vol. 18, No. 2, on p. 14. It is, of course, uncertain whether an invisible ray might be responsible for something like this (and Case 12), rather than a "barrier".
6. Ted Phillips, *UFO Events in Missouri 1957-1971. FSR Case Histories, Supplement 8* (December 1971), pp. 10-11. Once again, no sound was produced when the rock struck the barrier.
7. Walter Buhler, *Brazilian Cases in 1968 and 1969 — 4. FSR Case Histories, Supplement 5* (June 1971), p. 10.
8. Anthony J. Brunt, *Two "Creature" Reports from New Zealand.* FSR Vol. 15, No. 4 (July-August 1969), pp. 29-30.
9. Walter Buhler, *Brazilian Cases in 1968 and 1969-Pt. 6. FSR Case Histories, Supplement 7* (October 1971), p. 15.
10. Gordon Creighton, *Itaperuna Again.* FSR Vol. 18, No. 2 (March-April 1972), p. 13.
11. *Cloud Hides UFO.* A.P.R.O. Bulletin, Vol. 22, No. 3 (November-December 1973), p. 1, 4.
12. Gordon Creighton (trans.), *Life in the Cosmos.* FSR Vol. 25, No. 1 (January-February 1979), p. 26.
13. Michell & Rickard, p. 95.
14. Walter Buhler, *Extraterrestrial Dwarves Attack Farm Worker.* FSR Vol. 28, No. 1 (August 1982), pp. 5-8.
15. Leslie Harris, UFO & Silver-Suited Entity Seen Near Winchester. FSR Vol. 22, No. 5 (February 1977), pp. 3-6. There had been considerable rain around this time, and it is possible the car was just stuck in the mud.
16. W. K. Allan, *The Fort St. James Sightings.* FSR Vol. 24, No. 3 (November 1978), p. 11. This report is not specific as to the nature of the "force". A telepathic force may be meant.
17. *The Abducted Vet and the Frayed Briefcase.* Fortean Times 33 (Autumn 1980), p. 30.
18. Gordon Creighton, *Dr. Felix Zigel' and the Development of Ufology in Russia: Part II.* FSR Vol. 27, No. 4 (January 1982), pp. 15-16.

THE "ANGELS OF MONS"

S. E. Priest

The recent article in FSR 28/6 concerning the Fátima Apparitions prompts me to write a word or two regarding what came to be called the "Angels of Mons" incident.

It happened in 1914, early in World War I. The British Expeditionary Force was retreating across Belgium before a numerically superior German Army. As they reached the Mons area a section of the British Army was in serious danger of encirclement and capture. Soon after, back home in Britain, rumours began to go round that British soldiers at Mons had seen a line of "Angelic Beings" standing between the two armies and holding off the Germans so that the British forces could withdraw in safety. The newspapers carried startling reports and many clergymen spoke of the "Angelic" occurrence in their sermons, but at this distance in time it is difficult to get any real information on a subject which has hitherto been dismissed as just a rumour from a half-forgotten war.

The role of Arthur Machen

I have, however, in my possession a small book written by a well-known writer of the time, Arthur Machen, and published in 1915, about eight months after the alleged incident at Mons. In this book Mr. Machen sets out to explain that, at the time of the Retreat from Mons, he wrote, in a mood of patriotic pride, a short, entirely fictional, story which was published in the London *Evening News* under the title of *The Bowmen.* In this story he described how a line of archers from the Battle of Agincourt appeared between the two armies and drove off the Germans. It was his opinion that this story, appearing as it did at the time in the public press, was the stating point of the legend of "The Angels of Mons".

A Nurse's story

Curiously, because it seemed to go against the point Machen was making, included in this same small book was a copy of a letter printed a month or two before in

the London *Occult Review*. It was written by a Miss Phyllis Campbell, who stated that on the outbreak of war in 1914 she had gone to France as a nurse. While tending the British wounded from the early fighting she had been called to the bedside of one soldier. He asked if she could get him a picture or medal of St. George, because he had "seen him on a white horse leading the British at Vitry-le-François". A Royal Field Artillery man in a bed nearby then said that he had seen "a tall man with yellow hair, in golden armour, on a white horse, holding his sword up." Other soldiers had corroborated this, all agreeing that it was St. George because he looked exactly like the figure depicted on the gold sovereigns in use in Britain at the time. The nurse's letter went on to say:— "from further evidence it seemed that, while the English had seen the apparition of St. George coming out of "a yellow mist" or "cloud of light", to the French had been vouchsafed visions of St. Michael and Joan of Arc."

A UFO at Mons?

The controversy then seemed to die down for forty years until, in 1954, the subject revived in the *Daily Mirror*. On October 14 of that year the Editor of this paper printed a letter from a Mr. Malpas of Bristol, (obviously a survivor of the Retreat from Mons) which in my opinion brings The Legend very much into our UFO line of country. I have kept Mr. Malpas's letter as printed, and it runs as follows:—

"In the morning, about 8 or 9 o'clock, as far as my memory recalls, there appeared in the sky a large white light, brighter than daylight. It stayed for two or three minutes. At the same time there was a lull in the battle, and a sudden hush of silence settled over the battlefield.

My own experience was an uncanny feeling of awe. The men about me felt the same way. As to what it was I cannot express any opinion, but it certainly was NOT angels."

If we refer to an account of the Fátima phenomena we find that, while many hundreds of the huge congregation saw the "Sun" apparently move down from the sky, only the small group of young people at the centre of the occurrence actually saw the Holy Lady. Likewise, at Mons, it would seem that *some* British and French soldiers saw the figures of their national saints, others, like Mr. Malpas, saw a bright light in the sky, and some, presumably, saw nothing unusual.

I have never seen any mention that the German soldiers in the field at Mons noticed anything untoward. If we accept that Allied soldiers only saw these visions, probably induced, as we now think, by that light in the sky, coupled with the knowledge that the British Expeditionary Force *did* escape encirclement at Mons, the intriguing question arises ... why should this visitor from realms we cannot yet imagine intervene on *our* side? Put another way ... was it the principle of Goodness moving against the principle of Evil?

A Dunkirk phenomenon over London?

It was with this last observation that I intended to finish this piece on the "Angels of Mons". As I put it together over the recent Christmas period I also decided to clear out a few old papers and books. Then, by one of those coincidences which never fail to astonish, I noticed in an old copy of *Prediction* (Feb. 1968) the following letter. Written by a Mrs. Nowland of Stockport, I have truncated it a little for reasons of space. Referring to the Dunkirk evacuation of our troops in 1940, during the Second World War, she wrote:—

"I lived near Ruislip and, every afternoon, I felt compelled to take a deck-chair into the garden and sit facing London. The gunfire could be heard, and I sensed the drama of the historical battle which was taking place a few miles south of the city.

"As I sent my thoughts to the men on the beaches and to the armada of little ships, I became aware of a "ring" over London. Something was going round and round in the silvery blue of the clear sky, in huge, widening circles.

"Could this have been an Angelic protection of London, or of this Island? I think it was."

* * * *

COMMENT

What indeed are we to make of all this? If the problem of UFOs is "tricky", and permanently bedevilled by the *subjective factor,* the problem of "Marian" or "Angelic" Visions is surely ten times more so!

Throughout history, in times of war and of crisis, men have claimed to see such visions. Sometimes, as at Mons, such visions are claimed to have halted an enemy army.

One other example comes to mind, which had occurred just 43 years before. At 5.30 p.m. on January 17, 1871, during the Franco-Prussian War, the victorious Germans had surrounded Paris and some of their forces were pushing on towards a hamlet called Pontmain in north-western France when four of the local children said they had seen a vision of a beautiful young woman, whom the villagers promptly took to be the Virgin Mary.

Now it seems a historical fact that the German forces did suddenly cease their westward advance that evening, and indeed at the very time of the children's vision. There were reportedly tales that the Germans too had "seen something", though there seems to be no firm evidence for that.

Certainly then we have plenty of proof that the whole great course of History has often been changed or deflected by a mere vision: as when, in A.D. 312, on the eve of a battle, the Roman Emperor Constantine the Great claimed to have seen a *cross* in the sky along with the words:

ἐν τούτῳ νίκα

("by this, conquer")

and was forthwith converted to Christianity and made it the official religion of the Empire. But as to what REALLY happened in these visions, nobody ever seems to know. It is all too insubstantial, like human life itself. Like us. EDITOR

THAT MANTELL CRASH: A MYSTERY THAT WON'T QUIT

T. Scott Crain Jr.

Mr. Crain is a graduate of Pennsylvania State University and manager of the Crain Lumber Company in Port Matilda in that State. He has written many articles on UFOs for numerous journals, and specializes in research on UFO crashes, flying accidents, and various anomalies.

Since 1977 he has been the Pennsylvania State Section Director for MUFON (Mutual UFO Network.)

This article was first published in SEARCH MAGAZINE (Summer 1978), No. 135, by Palmer Publications Inc., and is now offered for reproduction in FSR with the express permission of Mr. Crain and of Palmer Publications.

In November, 1976, *Project Blue Book,* edited by Brad Steiger, claimed to explain the full story behind Captain Thomas Mantell's ill-fated pursuit of a UFO over Godman Field, January 8, 1948. For the first time, photographs and sketches were released of the crash, along with the statements by those who were in the control tower at the time Mantell was chasing the object. With these facts on hand, we are now able to examine the extent of the Air Force's investigation into this case. Also on hand, are the acts omitted from the official investigation which were either overlooked or deliberately suppressed. With both sides now brought to light, we may judge for ourselves the facts behind the unusual incident.

A synopsis of the encounter recapturing the events of that day can be found on page 44 of Steiger's book. They are:

"On 7 January 1948, at 1350 (1.50 p.m.) hours, the tower crew at Godman Field, Kentucky, sighted a bright disc-shaped object which they were unable to identify. The presence of this object was brought to the attention of the Base Operations Officer, the Base Intelligence Officer, and eventually the Base Commander, but the object remained unidentified. At 1445 (2.45 p.m.), a flight of five P-51s flew over Godman Field. The object was still visible, and the Flight Commander, Captain Mantell, stated he was on a ferry mission, but would investigate. Captain Mantell then started a spiralling climb to 15,000 feet, then continued to climb on a heading of 220°, the approximate direction of the UFO from Godman Field. At 15,000 feet the wing men turned back because they were not completely outfitted for flights requiring oxygen. The wing men attempted to contact Captain Mantell by radio but were unsuccessful. Captain Mantell made a transmission at 15,000 feet to the effect that he had the object in sight, and was still climbing to investigate. The 15,000 foot transmission was the last known of Captain Mantell."[1]

The controversy arising from the incident has two parts: one, what was Mantell really pursuing that day; and two, what caused the experienced pilot's plane to crash.

These facts have been established:

A. Mantell was fatally injured in the crash of his P-51 Interceptor while attempting to intercept the UFO.

B. Shortly after 5 p.m., the wreckage of Mantell's plane, scattered over an area of about one mile, was found on a farm, five miles south-west of Franklin, Kentucky.

The facts that have not been definitely established are the ones the Air Force makes when they attempt to recreate the events which caused Mantell to crash.

It was Venus, they said.

The first conception as to the identity of the object was Venus, which was located at the approximate directional position coinciding with the UFO. An Air Force representative from the Pentagon stated, without reservation, that "... they checked again and it was Venus," according to an article in the *Saturday Evening Post.*[2] This is the only explanation that was offered and it met little opposition for many months. Hence, poor Mantell was officially listed as attempt-

ing to reach Venus before he crashed and died. The story might have ended here except for a few noted individuals who pursued the case further and through careful analysis determined that the facts disagree with the official conclusion.

In his book, *The Report on Unidentified Flying Objects,* Edward J. Ruppelt, former head of the U.S. Air Force project investigating flying saucers, wrote he was *". . . convinced that the UFO wasn't Venus."*[3] He, along with Dr. J. Allen Hynek, then head of the Ohio State University Astronomy Department and now director of the Center For UFO Studies in Evanston, Illinois, reviewed the entire case. They concluded that although Venus was located in approximately the same spot as the UFO, ". . . Venus wasn't bright enough to be seen," the day Mantell got killed.[4]

When Air Force brass got wind of this, the official explanation was changed to teeter on a new conclusion. The Air Force now decided that the UFO responsible for killing Mantell, "might have been Venus or it could have been a balloon. Maybe two balloons. It probably was Venus except that this is doubtful because Venus was too dim to be seen in the afternoon."[5] A curious way to put the death of an Air Force pilot. Even the official report says ". . . atmosphere conditions must be exceptionally good," to view Venus in the daytime.[6] Atmospheric conditions were anything but good the day Mantell died, for weather reports indicated there was considerable haze in the atmosphere.[7] The point to be made here is that the Air Force switched their opinion of the cause of the crash from a positive solution (Venus), to an uncertain solution (probably not Venus, maybe a balloon). It's obvious the Air Force lacked sufficient evidence to foist either solution with certainty, so they unconvincingly stated it probably was a balloon or a planet, not knowing for sure which it was.

Balloon, perhaps

The second conception as to the identity of the object came several years later when the Navy Department disclosed they were using large balloons for high altitude experimental flights known as "skyhooks," in the vicinity on the day of the sighting.The reason the explanation wasn't offered sooner is that the Navy program was classified at the time. Therefore these balloon flights were known only to a select few. Hence, the official report states, "It has been unofficially reported that the object was a Navy cosmic ray balloon. If this can be established, it is to be the preferred as an explanation."[8]

The Air Force goes on to substantiate their "new" conclusion in Steiger's book.

"It was subsequently determined that on the date of the Godman sighting a balloon was released by the Navy from Clinton County airport in Ohio. The release time of the balloon was related to a wind plot for 7 January 1948, and it revealed that the balloon would have been in the area of Godman at the time of the sighting."[9]

The first flaw in this explanation is that no one to this day has ever produced the records of a balloon launching that would put a skyhook in the right place at the right time the day Mantell died. Captain Ruppelt, an insider to the official UFO investigation, could find no records to put a skyhook in the area during that day. If records did exist, as the Air Force claims they do, they surely would have been made public by now.

Secondly, the official Bluebook report states ". . . the prime culprit is believed to have been the skyhook balloon released by the Navy. Captain Mantell was attempting to close in on a balloon which was still more than 40,000 feet above him."[10] However, in an article in "Official UFO", February 1975 issue, B. R. Strong writes, ". . . the balloon isn't high enough for all the other sightings.* Air Force calculations showed that it would have to be 25 to 50 miles high."[11] The skyhook balloon had only half the required altitude. And finally, the balloon that was supposedly the cause of Mantell's misfortune was never recovered.[12]

The description and speed of the object do not correspond to a balloon or planet. Regarding the object's speed, Mantell reported that, ". . . the object is directly ahead of and above me now, moving at about half my speed."[13] That was approximately 180 miles per hour. Shortly after that transmission the flight leader said he was still climbing after "it", and now judged the speed to be the same as his. Common sense tells us neither Venus nor balloons move at the speed of a P.51 intercepter.

The Air Force also fails to explain why Mantell reported that the object seemed to rest, and then pick up speed, always keeping out of range of his Mustang Fighter. Could it be the object was edging him on?

While describing the object, Mantell reported, '. . . *It appears to be a metallic object of tremendous size*'.[14] Could balloons appear metallic-looking in the air as well as on the ground? It's possible, but not probable.

In the end, the Air Force believes Mantell lost consciousness due to oxygen starvation at an altitude of between 25,000 and 30,000 feet while chasing a Navy skyhook. Air Force investigators determined that Mantell's plane continued to climb for a while, then went into a steep dive causing the plane to partially disintegrate. Mantell probably never regained consciousness. According to the report in Steiger's book, the UFO was in no way directly responsible for the accident, it was simply because this experienced pilot chose to conduct a high altitude flight without the required oxygen equipment.

Did Mantell have oxygen equipment?

Two other pieces of evidence stand out which one will not find in the official reports. Everyone in Godman AFB Tower that day agreed on Mantell's final transmission which was "... *I'm going to 20,000 feet.*"[15] Paris Flammonde, author of *UFOs Exist* writes, "None of the aircraft was equipped with oxygen and Mantell was certainly approaching the maximum altitude for his P-51 lacking an additional support system".[16] Captain Ruppelt indicates in his book that this brings up a highly important question.

Ruppelt writes: "Why did Mantell, an experienced pilot, try to go to 20,000 feet when he didn't even have an oxygen mask? If he had run out of oxygen, it would have been different. Every pilot and crewman has it pounded into him, *'do not, under any circumstances, go above 15,000 feet without oxygen.'* In high-altitude indoctrination during World War II, I made several trips up to 30,000 feet in a pressure chamber. To demonstrate anoxia we would leave our oxygen masks off until we became dizzy. A few more of the hardy souls could get to 15,000 feet, but nobody got over 17,000. Possibly Mantell thought he could climb up to 20,000 in a hurry and get back down before he got anoxia and blacked out, but this would be a foolish chance. This point was covered in the sighting report. A long-time friend of Mantell's went on record as saying that he'd flown with him for several years and knew him personally. He couldn't conceive of Mantell's even thinking about disregarding his lack of oxygen. Mantell was one of the most cautious pilots he knew. *'The only thing I can think,'* he commented, *'was that he was after something that he believed to be more important than his life or his family.'*"[17]

The question remains, what did Mantell see that would entice him to altitudes that he knew would kill him quickly? A possible solution which is in direct contrast to official Air Force reports is related in Leonard H. Stringfield's book, *Situation Red, The UFO Siege.* Stringfield, a long-time UFO investigator, worked with the Air Defense Command from 1953-57 in the investigation and reporting of UFO activity as well as an early warning co-ordinator for the Colorado Project under Dr. Condon. His credentials are impeccable, having served in important posts with NICAP, IUFOR, MUFON and the Center for UFO Studies.

Stringfield writes, *"My informant, preferring anonymity, related that he had talked with Mantell's wing man, who witnessed the incident. The pilot stated that Mantell pursued the UFO because he was the only pilot with an adequate oxygen mask. The pilot also related that he saw a burst of 'what appeared to be tracer' fired from the UFO, which hit the P-51 and caused it to disintegrate in the air! Since the Mantell case, all other military encounters ending in disaster have been hidden from the public."*[18] This is quite a different story than the one listed in the official report.

Although this version of the incident lacks certain documentation, the facts do not contradict Stringfield's account of the incident. For instance, the Bluebook report states that pilot Lt. Buford Hammond advised Lt. Albert Clements that he had no oxygen equipment. Both pilots then returned to Standford Field. However, Mantell continued climbing. Nowhere in the official report could I find any evidence to suggest that Mantell indicated that he had no oxygen mask. Why did the Air Force assume Mantell carried no such oxygen? *According to Stringfield, one wingman (either Hammond or Clements) knew Mantell had oxygen. This could explain why Mantell continued to climb.* Some research was carried out by Captain Ruppelt to secure Mantell's wingmen's accounts of the incident. But according to Ruppelt all this evidence was, "... in the ruined portion of the microfilm, even their names were missing."[19] How convenient for the Air Force to have this critical testimony destroyed. If one of the wingmen had mentioned this fact, it was not to be rediscovered.

According to Stringfield, tracers fired from the UFO hit Mantell's plane causing it to disintegrate. Flammonde, in his book, *UFOs Exist,* writes, "... Glen Mayes, who lives near Franklin, said he saw the Mantell plane flying at an extremely high altitude just before it seemed to explode in the air."[20] If tracers were fired, could Mantell's plane have exploded?

One final piece of evidence I wish to offer may be found in Robert Emenegger's recent book *UFOs Past, Present, and Future,* in which he offers a signed affidavit made by James H. Hudson, CPL, ASN 13220873, a member of the military who, with an eight-inch telescope, observed an unidentified object over Kentucky at the scene of the P-51 crash. Hudson observed the following:

1. Height, 4 miles.
2. Width, 43 feet.
3. Height of object, 100 feet.
4. Speed at time, 10 mph.
5. Shape, cone.
6. Color, red with green tail.

This observation was taken at Godman Field, Kentucky, with a Theodolite:

1854 CST. Elevation 2.4, Azimuth 254.6
1856 CST. Elevation 2.0, Azimuth 253.9
1902 CST. Elevation 1.2, Azimuth 253.0
1906 CST. Disappeared.

Hudson concluded: *"The following is my opinion: The object was not a comet or star, but was man-made. It was not a balloon, comet, star, or aircraft of known type. The light did not come from the aircraft's running lights. The whole object appeared to be surrounded with burning gas or something that gave light . . ."*[21]

No reasonable explanation

In view of Stringfield's account of Mantell's misfortune, as well as Hudson's testimony involving something giving off light, it's obvious something more complex is involved here than a simple explanation of a balloon. In re-examining the evidence, certain facts stand out which even the Air Force cannot reasonably explain. Several of which are:

1. *The description of the object is not that of a balloon. Witnesses reported the object was shaped like an upside-down ice-cream cone. That means the large part is at the bottom and not at the top where the big part of a balloon should be.*

2. Balloons do not look metallic in the air and they can't move at the same speed or even half the speed of a P-51 intercepter aircraft.

3. Balloons don't slow up and then pick up speed, just to stay out of range of a pilot's plane.

4. Balloons don't give off light or appear to be surrounded by a burning gas.

5. And finally, why had no other pilot or group of people during that period ever encountered another Navy Skyhook balloon; why isn't there proof that one was ever launched; and why couldn't the Navy or Air Force ever recover that secret yet important Navy balloon?

Was there ever really a balloon that day? Scientists proved it wasn't Venus. The Air Force was hard pressed for an explanation, so the balloon concept offered a splendid diversion. But what was Mantell really chasing? What would be worth the risk?

References

*On January 7, 1948, witnesses near Louisville and dozens of persons near Madisonville, Kentucky, observed a cone-shaped object, silvery in colour, tipped with red, about 250 to 300ft. in diameter moving South. They reported their sightings to the Kentucky State Police which in turn, were later reported to Godman, Air Force Base.

1. Brad Steiger, *Project Blue Book*, Ballantine Books, New York, (1976), pp. 44-45.
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11. B. R. Strong, "The Truth About the Mantell Crash," *Official UFO* (February 1976), p. 46.
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MANTELL, OBERG, AND BALLOONS

T. Scott Crain Jr.

The following excerpt is from the author's article "UPDATE: UFOs", first published in SEARCH Magazine, Summer 1983, Number 155, by Palmer Publications Inc., and now reproduced in FSR by express permission of Mr. Crain and Palmer Publications Inc.

ON January 8, 1948, Captain Thomas Mantell crashed and was killed while pursuing a UFO over Godman Field, Kentucky. An article was published in SEARCH entitled, *"That Mantell Crash: a Mystery that won't Quit"*, (Summer 1978) which elaborated with documentation and testimony that it was unlikely a balloon was responsible for Mantell's ill-fated chase. Later that year, NASA scientist and UFO writer James Oberg challenged that evidence in his article "Venus 'Queen of the UFOs,'" in the December issue of *Omni*.

Oberg writes that even though Venus "... was off the hook" he appears confident the solution to the pilot's fate became obvious when ... "investigators came across declassified records of a giant, stratospheric spy balloon launched upwind of the sighting area a few hours earlier." His interference coincides exactly with the official Air Force conclusion that a Navy cosmic ray balloon was released from Clinton County airport on January 7, and is related to a wind plot that would place the balloon in the vicinity of Godman Field at the time of the accident.

After many months of research on the Mantell case, I can safely say Oberg cannot back up his statements with hard facts. Individuals responsible for Skyhook balloon flights at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base had no records of those flights in 1948. No records, to my knowledge, have been publicly viewed to suggest a skyhook balloon was ever launched from Clinton County airport that day in 1948.

In the fall of 1982, I wrote a letter to Oberg, challenging him to reveal his unnamed investigators or produce documents supporting his claims in *Omni.* In a letter dated December 12, Oberg writes:

> "My only documentation is an anonymous *note* on the Mantell case file, saying it was a Skyhook, plus *circumstantial* evidence that during that period Skyhooks apparently were being flown from a site that was upwind of Mantell on the day of the crash."

Oberg, who usually does his homework, played a guessing game this time. An "anonymous note" and "circumstantial evidence" is not the kind of evidence a scientist should use to decide the fate of an experienced pilot.

On the subject of documentation, Oberg goes on to say:

> "My statement that records had been found specifying that date was wrong.In future reprints of that article (and a book is planned) the error and the correction will be pointed out."

Finally, as we have shown again, the balloon theory is speculative at best.

One other piece of evidence I came across recently, was an article that appeared in the November-December 1955 issue of the *Flying Saucer Review.* (Volume 1, No. 5). Desmond Leslie writes in his article, "Captain Mantell — No Further Doubts About Interception," that he interviewed an engineer (unnamed) who was at Godman Field the day Mantell crashed. This witness claims some of Mantell's radio transmissions were deleted from the original report.

According to this witness, Mantell stated during the pursuit that he could see a ring of portholes surrounding the rim of the object. If this is true, the whole balloon theory goes up in smoke. But is it true?

It would seem after more than 30 years after the incident, Leslie might identify who this critical witness is. With the assistance of the staff of the *Flying Saucer Review,* I wrote to Desmond Leslie in the spring of 1982, to find out who this mysterious engineer is. To date, I have not received a reply.

But even without this unknown witness's testimony, there is enough accumulated evidence on record, to show beyond any reasonable doubt, Mantell was no balloon chaser.

Footnote by Editor, FSR.
I am happy to be able to throw some light on this case and answer Mr. T. Scott Crain Jr.'s query.

Early this year I wrote to Mr. Desmond Leslie at his home at Castle Leslie, Glaslough, Co. Monahan, Ireland, and asked him whether he could fill us in with the missing information, and he replied on March 23, 1984 as follows:—

> "The engineer's name was Scott. I met him while I was travelling to lecture in America around 1955/56. We were both Tourist Class (only £50!!!), on the QUEEN MARY, that wonderful ship.
>
> I can't recall his first name. He was greyish, tall, and middle-aged — 40ish. He claimed to have heard the dialogue, Mantell to Control Tower, either when in the Tower or from a recording. (Probably the former, as recordings were thin on the ground in those days.) I think he also said that Mantell cried: *"It's huge — like the Eiffel Tower!"*
>
> "No need for confidentiality. Scott never asked for it, and talked quite openly."

This letter from Desmond Leslie is in my files.
GORDON CREIGHTON
May 28, 1984

MAILBAG (cont.)
from page (iii)

hitherto regarded as 'paranormal' but it also holds out the promise of being able to replicate psychic phenomena within the laboratory. In short, we may be on the threshold of a scientific understanding of UFOs.

I would like to conclude by saying that the above letters represent the UFO phenomenon as being beyond the control of man and the reach of his science. In the one instance, it is portrayed as something superhuman, and in the other as something supernatural. In both cases we become victims of our own hypotheses.

Do I hear the sound of demonic laughter?

Yours sincerely,
David Powell,
137 Dorado Street,
Waterkloof Ridge,
Pretoria 0181
Republic of South Africa
January 23, 1984

Dear Sir, — You have a superior publication, which I enjoy very much.

When the mail is late I'm tempted to call, to see that the issue is on the way.

Good luck!
William Pomerantz, M.D., P.A.
Randolph Medical Center
765 State Highway No. 10
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U.S.A.
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Contributoı

MAIL BAG

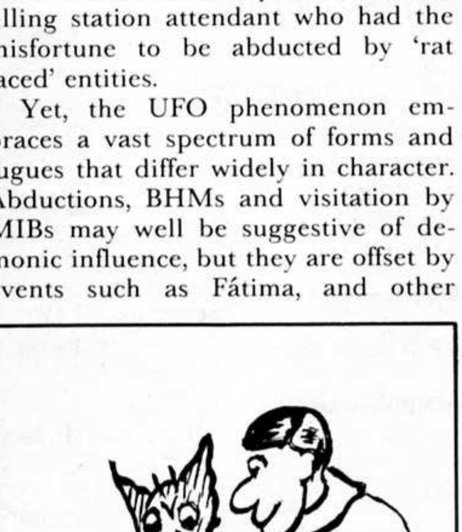
Correspondence is invited from our readers, but they are asked to keep their letters short. Unless letters give the sender's full name and address (not necessarily for publication) they cannot be considered. The Editor would like to remind correspondents that it is not always possible to acknowledge every letter personally, so he takes this opportunity of thanking all who write to him.

A Buddhist Viewpoint

Dear Sir, — I would like to refer to two letters to the Editor in the 29/2 edition. Although these two letters are different in content, they seem to me to reflect similar modes of thinking.

In the first letter, Malcolm Dickson referred to *"devilries masquerading as UFO phenomena"* and quoted various passages from the Moffatt translation of the Bible in support of his views. He also mentioned St. Paul's claim that "only the sealing of the Holy Spirit provides an effective shield against the terrors and allurements of the 'powers'," and felt that this had been demonstrated by the Brazilian filling station attendant who had the misfortune to be abducted by 'rat faced' entities.

Yet, the UFO phenomenon embraces a vast spectrum of forms and fugues that differ widely in character. Abductions, BHMs and visitation by MIBs may well be suggestive of demonic influence, but they are offset by events such as Fátima, and other Marian apparitions which have had profound spiritual effects. Would Mr. Dickson regard all visitations as demonic, or are some demonic and others angelic?



"You remind him of the postman."

As Peter L. Berger wrote in *'A Rumor of Angels'*, "If the religious projections of man correspond to a reality that is superhuman and supernatural, then it seems logical to look for traces of this reality in the projector himself."

It may be likely that the very demons and angels that populate our myths and scriptural works are themselves the product of the same forces which now bestow on us the UFO phenomenon in all its variety. Furthermore, those demons and angels which appear to have so much sway over mortals may derive that power in direct proportion to the belief and fear which they are able to conjure up in us today, as well as in the past.

If this is the case, then the elevation of "weak and beggarly elemental spirits" (Galatians 4:9) into superhuman agents of evil will have accomplished precisely that diabolical plot which was quoted from C. S. Lewis' *"The Screwtape Letters"*. We will then have learned to "emotionalise and mythologise" (our) science to such an extent that what is, in effect, a belief in (demons) will creep in while the human mind remains closed to belief in the Enemy (which Mr. Dickson calls God but which I prefer to describe as Truth).

Probably no religious order is as cognisant of demons as that of Lamaism, or Tantric Buddhism. Not only do Asuras (demons) inhabit one of the six realms of the Samsaric world, but demonic tulpas (thought forms) play an integral role in the spiritual development of Lamas.

Through a prescribed process of creative visualization, Buddhist monks are taught to create thought forms which are the very embodiment of those fearsome entities which decorate their temple walls. The significance of this ritual lies not, however, in the worship of demons, but in the ultimate recognition that all manifested forms, including demons, are projections of the human mind, which can be transcended.

In the second letter, Julian Kaneko characterises the UFO phenomenon as "paraphysical" in nature. Not only, he writes, will our physical science "NEVER be able to cope with the paraphysical" but he goes on to state that "it will forever remain beyond the scope and ken of any human, whatever the level of his or her intelligence".

Now this is a grand claim which suggests supernal knowledge of its own. Yet by the act of defining the UFO phenomenon as paraphysical — or above the physical — it is no surprise to find that Mr. Kaneko considers it beyond the reach of physical science. It is easy to see why science has had such difficulty in dealing with UFOs, as indeed all 'paranormal' phenomena. Based as it is upon extrapolated hypotheses, supported by observation, and verifiable by experiment, our physical science has certainly floundered. It has lacked not only a theory with which to explain the phenomenon, but also the tools with which to analyse and measure it.

Yet modern physics is a far cry from its condition of twenty years ago. Renowned psychics such as Uri Geller and Ingo Swann have conducted experiments within some of the most prestigious universities. Every year brings new understanding of the 'paranormal' and draws back the curtain of the unknown.

That Mr. Kaneko should have directed his challenge at physics is particularly ironic in view of Burkhard Heim's Unified Quantum Field Theory of Matter and Gravitation. Not only does Heim's six dimensional paradigm encompass what was

(continued on page 28)

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Published by FSR Publications Ltd., West Malling, Maidstone, Kent, England, and printed in Great Britain by OPTICHROME Ltd., Maybury Road, Woking, Surrey, England.